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## REVIEWS

*Elizabethan Religious History.* By H. Soames, M.A. Parker.

WE some time since adverted to the complaint, frequently made by enlightened foreigners, of the neglect of ecclesiastical history in England. It is, we believe, perfectly true that the controversies between the sects of philosophers in Athens, are better understood, even by many of the clergy, than the discussions of questions affecting the very principles on which the English church is founded. Without denying to Dr. Southey's 'Book of the Church,' the praise of erudition and research, we still consider it unfit to supply this deficiency: it is intemperate and one-sided; and though in the last edition the want of authority has been remedied by the insertion of references, yet a very slight examination will suffice to show that the estimate of conflicting evidence is formed more from preconceived opinions, than from an examination of the character of the witnesses. Carwithen's History is more faithful, but the really important matters to be examined are slurred over, and undue prominence given to topics all but indifferent to the issue. More recently, the Rev. Dr. Short has published a 'History of the Church of England,' which, taken as a whole, deserves the praise of candour and impartiality. He does not deny a meed of applause to the enemies of the establishment, and he does not conceal the delinquencies of violent churchmen; but he dwells too exclusively on the formularies, which are the mere surface, and does not enter into the principles which lay at the root of the great controversies that have divided the church. He has also overlaid his facts too frequently with opinions: nervously afraid of giving offence, he seems anxious to find palliatives for everybody; even when he "hints a fault, and hesitates dislike," he hastens to explain away his qualified censure. As Vidaillan said of Sleidan's 'History of the Reformation,' "he fears to say all he thinks; his opinions are strong, and his expressions weak." This defect was, perhaps, inseparable from his position; the fear which he expresses, in his preface, was constantly present to his mind:—"Some persons may object that the opponents of the Establishment are occasionally depicted in too favourable colours, and the defects of our common parent held up to view with less cautious respect than becomes a dutiful son of the Church of England."

Mr. Soames has undertaken the ecclesiastical history of Elizabeth's reign, as the most important period in the annals of the English Church, because, as he justly observes, the controversies which have subsequently agitated the establishment may be traced back to principles mooted during that stirring time. It is not our purpose to pronounce judgment on any of these disputes, our sole object will be to explain what was the nature of the points in issue,—a matter about which most of the controversialists themselves were indifferent or ignorant.

Sir Edward Coke, in his celebrated argument on *Cawdrey's case*, (A.D. 1591), proved that the royal supremacy over the church had been more or less asserted in every reign since the Conquest, and that there had never been a legal recognition of the papal superiority. This was the principle on which Henry VIII. vindicated his quarrel with the court of Rome, and it was the first to be decided in the reign of Elizabeth; for if the divorce of Queen Catherine was invalid from not having received papal sanction, then Anne Boleyn was unwedded, and her daughter illegitimate. Had the papal chair been filled by a prudent or moderate prelate, this difficulty might have been obviated; but Paul IV. was

bent on recovering the supremacy of his predecessors in Italy and Germany, and his great object was to humble the power of the house of Austria. Bartoli's 'History of the Jesuits' shows us that the probability of Philip II. becoming the supporter and ally of Elizabeth, was felt, in Rome, before Mary's death; and that Paul IV. was much more influenced by the fear that she would favour Spain, than the suspicion that she would encourage heresy. Religion could have little to say to the question, for, at this very time, the Pope had a regiment of Swiss Protestants in his pay; and the greatest bigot in Europe—Philip II.—not only recognized the title of Elizabeth, but became a suitor for her hand. The precipitation of Paul IV., and his haughty rejection of the conciliatory message, sent by the Queen to announce her accession, rendered the separation between the English church and the Romish court inevitable; and many continental writers, as well Catholic as Protestant, throw the blame on the pontiff's violence of temper, and hatred of the house of Austria.

Elizabeth's first project was to effect a compromise between the Anglican and the Latin Church, and this did not then present any great difficulties, for the Romish doctrines were as yet indefinite: indeed, the Anglican settlement of Faith was rather more than ten months anterior to the Roman, for the Thirty-nine Articles received an unanimous consent from the English convocation, January 31, 1563, while the Trentine decrees, embodying the Romish confession of faith, were not published until January 26, 1564. These dates are of importance in estimating the controversies which have arisen out of proposals to effect a reconciliation between the two churches. It is sufficiently clear that such a measure was not impossible when Elizabeth ascended the throne, and the schism rests not on the Queen, but rather on the violence of Paul IV. and the bigotry of his immediate successor. Matters would have terminated differently if a Ganganelli had occupied the papal chair, instead of a Carafa, a Medici, or a Ghislieri.

Elizabeth was thus driven by the Pope into the arms of the Reformers; her religious policy was, however, but slightly changed; she preferred the system of her father to that of her brother, and resisted the innovations proposed by the German divines. In fact, the alterations were so few that many Romanists attended the church service, for several years, without scruple. It is curious that a Puritan and a Jesuit should unite in condemning this moderation as an artifice; Neale says "most of the popish laity were deceived into conformity;" Moore declares, "*vulgus specie quâdam simulatâ veritatis tentabatur.*" The recusant bishops in the records that remain object, not to the doctrine or discipline of the Anglican Church, but simply to the oath of supremacy, the abolition of papal authority, and the transfer of the supremacy to the sovereign; but it remained to be determined where the authority formerly possessed by Rome was vested. Three courses of policy were open: first, according to the plan proposed by Erastus, the church might be made a department of the state, like the army, navy, or police; and the entire power of reward or punishment vested in the civil magistrate: or, secondly, the Church might be directed by an episcopal council: or, thirdly, the clerical body, immediately or by representation, might manage the internal affairs of its own body, and exercise ecclesiastical discipline over the laity. Of these, the first was adopted by the Queen, the second was desired by the bishops of the Anglican party, and the third vehemently urged by the Germanic Protestants. The struggle which followed is usually called the Vesture Controversy, and its history has been written as

if the dispute turned upon nothing but square-caps, copes, albs, and surplices. Mr. Soames, however, has shown that the rising spirit of democracy was an animating principle of the anti-vestural party; and we think it impossible to read the tracts of the day without discovering that the objections made to the distinctive dresses were really directed against the subordination of ranks, of which they were the outward signs.

We have said that the course adopted by Elizabeth was Erastian; she would have unfrocked a bishop who opposed her will, with as little ceremony as George IV. used in dismissing Sir Robert Wilson, and actually threatened to do so in the case of Grindall; but it is of importance, as Dr. Short has ably shown, to observe that Erastianism was also the favourite principle of Cranmer; for, in his answers to the queries proposed to certain divines, in 1540, he describes the clerical office as dependent entirely on the civil magistrate, and ascribes the power of excommunication, possessed by the bishop, to the civil authority with which he is invested by the sovereign. Every man's opinions are, however, more or less modified by circumstances; and it must be remembered, that, when Cranmer gave these answers, the civil authority was in a great measure under his own direction. The Germanic or Puritan party could not, therefore, in the first instance, protest against the principle of the sovereign's supremacy, or the act under which the High Commission Court was erected, because they had themselves advocated the principle in the reign of Edward VI. This court, which possessed almost as much power as the Romish inquisition, and was little less scrupulous in its use, was rendered necessary by the peculiar situation of the establishment: no church can be perfect without a central power, and a final appellate jurisdiction placed somewhere. Dr. Short frequently laments, that, when the obnoxious court was abolished, by the 17th of Charles I., no attempt was made to provide a substitute for it; and attributes to this want of some organic body, empowered to pronounce authoritative decisions, at least in questions of usage and discipline, many of the perils of schism which have menaced the Church of England. With the High Commission Court the Act of Uniformity is inseparably connected. The Act of Elizabeth was far less stringent than that of Charles II.; it required a legal process of ejection, and afforded time for softening the asperities of the prosecutor, and the obstinacy of the recusant, and two convictions for distinct offences were necessary before sentence of deprivation could be pronounced. It is also remarkable, that this act expressly connects uniformity of vesture with subordination of rank.

We trust that we have now sufficiently shown that the Vesture controversy was not a mere dispute "about linen and woollen" (*propter lanam et linum*), as Sampson and Humphrey described it, but a contest about the principles of church government, of which each party wished to obtain possession.

Mr. Soames dwells on the fact, that no point of doctrine was mooted in this stage of the controversy, and that the dispute about Faith and Works, which formed so large a portion of the discussions under the Tudors, was not noticed in the early part of Elizabeth's reign. A closer examination, however, shows that this difference of doctrine was involved in the controversy from the very commencement, as it has been more or less in every theological discussion. It is, in fact, the point on which turns the entire question of sacerdotal power, whether a priesthood be a necessary body *jure divino*, or a mere expedient institution *jure humano*. If certain works convey efficacious grace only when performed by autho-

rized ministers, such as sacrifices under the Jewish, and sacraments under the Christian dispensation, an ecclesiastical establishment must exist by a right superior to that of the state itself; but if the entire responsibility be thrown on every individual, as it must be when the doctrine of justification by faith is pushed to the extreme, then a priesthood is merely an institution of expediency. Absolute sacerdotal authority is inconsistent with absolute individual responsibility; and this is the foundation of the disputes between the priests and philosophers of Athens, the Pharisees and Sadducees among the Jews, and the episcopalians and congregationalists of Christendom. But this philosophic difficulty, which lies at the very foundation of the matter, is generally the last discovered by the various controversialists.

The separation of the Non-conformists or Puritans from the Church of England dates from the year 1567; the secession of the Romish party can scarcely be said to have taken place before the year 1570. The doctrines of the Anglican and Latin Church were not irreconcilable until Pius IV. made the latter a sectarian body by adopting the rigid definitions of the Tridentine decrees, which destroyed the latitude of opinion hitherto permitted to the churches of Christendom. Elizabeth retained eleven of Mary's councillors among her advisers, and had a crucifix in her own private chapel, and the attachment of the most zealous adherents to the ancient faith to the Latin service, was gradually declining. But the papal party throughout Europe became anxious to place Mary, Queen of Scots, on the English throne, and thus the religious controversy became identified with the more perilous question of a disputed succession. The persecutions which followed partake of this mixed political and religious character: Protestant historians describe the victims as traitors, Romanists honour them as martyrs; and an impartial writer is perplexed by finding both characters frequently combined in the same person. The denial of the Queen's supremacy was declared to be an act of treason; the Pope was treated as a temporal sovereign at war with England, and hence any overt act of adhesion to his authority, such as bringing over papal bulls, reconciling persons to the Romish Church who had previously conformed to the established religion, or exercising sacerdotal functions by powers derived from him, were punished as acts of adherence to a public enemy. This severity unquestionably admits of much palliation from the circumstances of the time, especially as the Pope began the war by publishing the sentence of excommunication and deposition against the Queen; but there is no excuse for the inquisitions by torture into the opinions of the accused respecting the extent of the deposing power of the Pope, and condemning men to death on the miserable quibble that "a refusal of the oath of supremacy is an implied affirming of some doctrine contrary to it." Out of the two hundred Romanists who were put to death in this reign for not clearly understanding the tenet of divided allegiance, there was scarcely one who did not recognize Elizabeth as queen *de facto*, though refusing to give an opinion one way or the other on her title *de jure*. Campion was four times tortured on the rack; and neither the official records of these infamous examinations, nor the evidence subsequently produced at his trial, afford a shadow of proof that he was guilty of treason even in intention.

It is not necessary to extend our examination of this topic; but it is of importance to observe that, though five anti-trinitarians were burned in Elizabeth's reign for heretical opinions, the Romanists were indicted for no theological speculation, save that connected with the difficult question of divided allegiance. It must also be

remarked that the greatest number of executions (thirty-six) took place in the year of the Spanish Armada. But Romanists were not the only sufferers for denying the Queen's supremacy: five Non-conformists were hanged as felons for controversial attacks upon the liturgy, which the crown lawyers of that day represented as an attack upon the royal prerogative, a libel on the Queen through her ecclesiastical supremacy.

All circumstances considered, the professed principle of Elizabeth and her ministers, that none in her reign should suffer capitally for religion, must be esteemed a false pretence; though it is exceedingly probable that, had not the Pope wantonly pronounced against her disputable title, she would never have persecuted the Romanists; and had not John Knox published a 'Blast against the Monstrous Regiment and Empire of Women,' she would have acted more moderately towards Non-conformists.

The struggles of the Puritan party to establish presbyteries in every diocese, and to regulate the church by a species of national convention, greatly alarmed the bishops, and led Whitgift to rival Cranmer's Erastianism, by urging the Queen to rest the discipline of the church upon her own supremacy. This measure, which was originally adopted for the maintenance of episcopal authority, and to prevent the bishops from being limited by the control of a consistorial oligarchy, has rendered the relations between the church and state in England not a little complicated and uncertain; Dr. Short declares, that "the temporal advantages which the establishment possesses, are, perhaps, more than counterbalanced by the total inability of our church to regulate anything within herself, and the great want of discipline over the clergy." The question of royal supremacy was severely tried in the reign of James II., and after the Revolution some efforts were made by two different parties to render the church in some degree an independent power of the state. The non-juring bishops continued their succession as a distinct body down to the year 1778, and the Non-conformists tried to revive the old project of consistories. From that time until the year 1834 the consistorial controversy slumbered, but in the last-named year it was revived in the Irish church, and it is still agitated in Ireland on nearly the same grounds as it was in the reign of Elizabeth.

In the commencement of the struggle between papacy, prelacy, and presbytery, the object of contest was political power, and nothing else; doctrinal differences were only evolved during the continued heat of strife. Whenever the ruling party allowed a latitude of opinion, and abstained from giving fixedness to any set of dogmas by rigid definition, the doctrinal differences sunk into quiet oblivion. It may be truly said that the Reformation was rendered permanent by the Council of Trent; for when the Latin Church adopted the narrow interpretations and strict decrees of the Tridentine fathers it became sectarian, and was as justly liable to the imputation of schism as its opponents. That Church is most truly Catholic which allows the greatest latitude of opinion consistent with the existence of an establishment. Churchmen of all parties have called for a commission, convocation, or synod to arrange some anomalies in the establishment as it stands, especially to determine the validity of canons not sanctioned by Parliament, and the compulsory use of forms of prayer ordained by Parliament, but never legally recognized by Church authority. A smaller but more active number looks for a revision of the Thirty-nine Articles, a re-modelling of the Book of Common Prayer, and a revival of the authorized version of the Scriptures; to which many add, the erection of some recog-

nized appellate jurisdiction for deciding controversies both of discipline and doctrine. We have shown that the difficulty attending all these proposals, which are nearly as old as the Church itself, is to determine by whose authority these things are to be done; and that the danger is the introduction of definition instead of the general forms which allow latitude of opinion.

The length to which we have gone prevents us from saying more of Mr. Soames's work than that it is entitled to commendation: he is a zealous churchman, and his opinions have necessarily biased his views; but in his notes he gives the statements of his opponents, both Romanists and Non-conformists, so that the reader may form his own conclusions. His History shows that the religious tranquillity of England might have been undisturbed by any great struggle, if all parties had exhibited a little less self-sufficiency and a little more charity.

*Wild Scenes in the Forest and Prairie.* By C. F. Hoffman, Esq. 2 vols. Bentley.

WHILE we were last week speculating on the estimation in which such men as Audubon and others of his habits would hold deer-stalking in the forests of Atholl, with all princely aids and appliances, we were not aware that we had just received from Mr. Bentley a work from which at least an insight might be gained into the nature and character of Transatlantic sport itself—for though the volumes before us are substantially a collection of tales, yet the wild sports of "the Land of Lakes" is the connecting link which holds them together, and, to us, the more interesting part of the work.

Mr. Hoffman started on his adventures in search of the sources of the Hudson. It was not known until the year of grace 1837, and on the publication of the Ordnance Survey, that the mountains whence issues this noble river are among the loftiest in the United States—that the lakes which feed it are equally remarkable for their numbers, their picturesque variety, and wild beauty. Our author was among the first to explore these newly-discovered lands and waters. We cannot, of course, follow him day by day, though his narrative is always pleasant, and the description of his various resting places, log cabins, "dead clearings," and the customs and manners of these out-of-the-world places, is fresh and strange to us of the old civilized haunts of men,—but must hurry at once up to the mountains, the dwelling-places, even yet, of the deer and the moose, the bear, the wolf, the panther, the sable, the marten, and the ermine, all of which range undisturbed in these solitudes—although the lumber-men and the charcoal-burners have sounded their notes of preparation, and the old hunters are beginning to look out towards the wilds beyond the Wisconsin. We shall at once introduce our readers to one of these men, who serves as friend and guide to the strangers. He might have sat, as Mr. Hoffman observes, for "Leather-stocking;"—there is the same silent, simple, deep love of the woods—the same gentleness and benevolence of feeling towards all who love his craft—the same shrewdness as a woodsman, and spirit as a hunter.

"I had heard," says Mr. Hoffman, "of some of John Cheney's feats before coming into this region, and expected, of course, to see one of those roystering, cavorting, rifle-shirted blades that I have seen upon our western frontier, and was at first not a little disappointed when a slight-looking man of about seven-and-thirty, dressed like a plain countryman, and of a peculiarly quiet, simple manner, was introduced to me as the doughty slayer of bears and panthers; a man that lived winter and summer three-fourths of the time in the woods, and a real *bona fide* hunter by profession. Nay, there struck me as being something of the ridiculous about his character when I

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saw that this formidable Nimrod carried with him, as his only weapon and insignia of his art, a *pistol* and a *jack-knife*! But when, at my laughing at such toys, I was told by others of the savage encounters which John, assisted by his dog, and aided by these alone, had undertaken successfully—not to mention the number of deer which he sent every winter to market—my respect for his hunting-tools was mightily increased, and a few days in the woods with him sufficed to extend that respect to himself."

We shall now invite the reader to a pic-nic in the mountains, and a feast off some lake-trout just caught:—

"Well!" said Cheney, after he had cooked the trout to a turn, and placed a plump, red, juicy fellow, upon a clean cedar chip before each of us, with an accompaniment of roast potatoes and capital wheaten bread; "now isn't this better than taking your dinner shut up in a close room?"—Certainly, John, said I. "A man ought never to go into a house except he is ill, and wishes to use it for a hospital."—Well, now, I don't know whether you are in earnest in saying that, but that's just my way of thinking. Twice I have given up hunting, and taken to a farm: but I always get sick after living long in houses. I don't sleep well in them; and sometimes when I go to see my friends, not wishing to seem particular-like, I just let them go quietly to bed, and then slip out of a window with my blanket, and get a good nap under a tree in the open air. A man wants nothing but a tree above him to keep off the dew, and make him feel kind of homelike, and then he can enjoy a real sleep."—But are you never disturbed by any wild animal when sleeping thus without fire or a camp?—one of us asked.—Well, I remember once being wakened by a cretur. The dumb thing was standing right over me, looking into my face. It was so dark, that neither of us, I suppose, could see what the other was: but he was more frightened than I was, for when I raised myself a little he ran off so fast that I couldn't make out what he was; and seeing it was so dark, that to follow him would be of no account, I laid down again and slept till morning, without his disturbing me again.—"Suppose it had been a bear?"—Well, a bear isn't exactly the varmint to buckle with so off-hand; though lying on your back is about as good a way as any to receive him, if your knife be long and sharp; but afore now, I've treed a bear at nightfall, and sitting by the root of the tree until he should come down, have fallen asleep, from being too tired to keep good watch, and let the fellow escape before morning."

We would willingly have given our readers an account of a Sacondaga deer-hunt, as a companion picture to Mr. Scrope's at Blair Atholl, but it would occupy more space than we can fairly appropriate to the subject, although it is a scene of forest life well described. Mr. Hoffman incidentally observes:—

"There is nothing in the world like being a few hours on a hunting-station, with every sense upon the alert to familiarize one with the innumerable sounds and noises that steal up in such 'creeping murmurs' from the stillest forest. A man may walk the woods for years and be conscious only of the call of birds or the cry of some of the larger animals, making themselves heard above the rustling of his footsteps. But watching thus for young quarry, in a country abounding in game, and when it may steal upon you at any moment, interest approaches almost to anxiety; and intense eagerness for sport makes the hearing as nice as when fear itself lends its unhappy instinct to the senses. Myriads of unseen insects appear to be grating their wings beneath the bark of every tree around you, and the 'piled leaves,' too damp to rustle in the breeze, give out a sound as if a hundred rills were creeping beneath their plaited matting."

Mr. Scrope hints occasionally at the hard service of deer-stalking, but we do not remember a chapter on 'Camping out':—

"It ain't so bad a place for camping out," said John Cheney, as he rose from slaking his thirst at a feeble rill which trickled from beneath the roots of a rifted cedar over which he leaned.—it ain't so bad a place to camp, if it didn't rain so like all natur. I wouldn't mind the rain much, nother, if we had a

good shantee; but you see the birch bark won't run at this season, and it's pretty hard to make a waterproof thatch, unless you have hemlock boughs—how'sever, gentlemen, I'll do the best by ye." And so he did! Honest John Cheney, thou art at once as staunch a hunter, and as true and gentle a practiser of woodcraft as ever roamed the broad forest; and beshrew me when I forget thy services that night in the Indian Pass. The frame of a wigwam used by some former party was still standing, and Cheney went to work industriously tying poles across it with withes of yellow birch, and thatching the roof and sides with boughs of balsam-fir. Having but one axe with us, my friend and myself were, in the mean time, unemployed, and nothing could be more disconsolate than our situation, as we stood dripping in the cold rain, and thrashing our arms, like hackney-coachmen, to keep the blood in circulation. My hardy friend, indeed, was in a much worse condition than myself. He had been indisposed when he started upon the expedition, and was now so hoarse that I could scarcely hear him speak amid the gusts of wind which swept through the ravine. We both shivered as if in an ague, but he suffered under a fever which was soon superadded. We made repeated attempts to strike a fire, but our matches would not ignite, and when we had recourse to flint and steel, everything was so damp around us that our fire would not kindle. John began to look exceedingly anxious.—"Now, if we only had a little daylight left, I would make some shackleberry-tea for you; but it will never do to get sick here, for if this storm prove a north-easter, God only knows whether all of us may ever get away from this notch again. I guess I had better leave the camp as it is, and first make a fire for you." Saying this, Cheney shouldered his axe, and striking off a few yards, he felled a dead tree, split it open, and took some dry chips from the heart. I then spread my cloak over the spot where he laid them to keep off the rain, and stooping under it he soon kindled a blaze, which we employed ourselves in feeding until the 'camp' was completed. And now came the task of laying in a supply of fuel for the night. This the woodman effected by himself with an expedition that was marvellous. Measuring three or four trees with his eye, to see that they would fill near the fire without touching our wigwam, he attacked them with his axe, felled, and chopped them into logs, and made his wood-pile in less time than could a city sawyer, who had all his timber carted to hand. Blankets were then produced from a pack which he had carried on his back; and these, when stretched over a carpeting of leaves and branches, would have made a comfortable bed, if the latter had not been saturated with rain. Matters, however, seemed to assume a comfortable aspect, as we now sat under the shade of boughs, drying our clothes by the fire; while John busied himself in broiling some bacon which we had brought with us. But our troubles had only yet begun; and I must indulge in some details of a night in the woods, for the benefit of 'gentlemen who sit at home at ease.'

"Our camp, which was nothing more than a shed of boughs open on the side toward the fire, promised a sufficient protection against the rain so long as the wind should blow from the right quarter; and an outlying deer-stalker might have been content with our means and appliances for comfort during the night. Cheney, indeed, seemed perfectly satisfied as he watched the savoury slices which were to form our supper steaming up from the coals. 'Well,' said the woodman, 'you see there's no place but what if a man bestirs himself to do his best, he may find some comfort in it. Now, many's the time that I have been in the woods on a worse night than this, and having no axe, nor nothing to make a fire with, have crept into a hollow log, and lay shivering till morning; but here, now, with such a fire as that.' As he spoke a sudden puff of wind drove the smoke from the green and wet timber full into our faces, and filled the shantee to a degree so stifling, that we all rushed out into the rain, that blew in blinding torrents against us. 'Tormented lightning!' cried John, agast at this new annoyance. 'This is too pesky bad; but I can manage that smoke if the wind doesn't blow from more than three quarters at a time.' Seizing his axe upon the instant, he plunged into the darkness beyond the fire, and in a moment or two a large tree came crashing with all its leafy honours,

bearing down with it two or three saplings to our feet. With the green boughs of these he made a wall around the fire to shut out the wind, leaving it open only on the side toward the shantee. The supper was now cooked without further interruption. My friend was too ill to eat; but, though under some anxiety on his account, I myself did full justice to the culinary skill of our guide, and began to find some enjoyment amid all the discomfort of our situation. The recollection of similar scenes in other days gave a relish to the wildness of the present, and inspired that complacent feeling which a man of less active pursuits sometimes realizes, when he finds that the sedentary habits of two or three years have not yet warped and destroyed the stirring tastes of his youth. We told stories and recounted adventures. I could speak of these northern hills, from having passed some time among them upon a western branch of the Hudson, when a lad of fourteen; while the mountain-hunter would listen with interest to the sporting scenes that I could describe to him upon the open plains of the far west; though I found it impossible to make him understand how men could find their way in a new country where there were so few trees! With regard to the incidents and legends that I gathered in turn from him, I may hereafter enlighten the reader. But our discourse was suddenly cut short by a catastrophe which had nearly proved a very serious one. This was nothing more or less than the piles of brush which encircled our fire, to keep the wind away, suddenly kindling into a blaze, and for a moment or two threatening to consume our wigwam. The wind, at the same time, poured down the gorge in shifting, angry blasts, which whirled the flames in reeling eddies high into the air, bringing the grey cliffs into momentary light—touching the dark evergreens with a ruddy glow—and lighting up the stems of the pale birches, that looked like sheeted ghosts amid the surrounding gloom. A finishing touch of the elements was yet wanting to complete the agreeableness of our situation, and finally, just as the curtain of brush on the windward side of the fire was consumed, the cold rain changed into a flurry of snow; and the quickly-melted flakes were driven with the smoke into the innermost parts of our wigwam. Conversation was now out of the question. John did, indeed, struggle on with a panther story for a moment or two, and one or two attempts were made to joke upon our miserable situation, but sleet and smoke alternately damped and stifled every effort, and then all was still except the roar of the elements. My sick friend must have passed a horrible night, as he woke me once or twice with his coughing; but I wrapped myself in my cloak, and placing my mouth upon the ground to avoid choking from the smoke, I was soon dreaming as quietly as if in a curtained chamber at home. The last words I heard John utter, as he coiled himself in a blanket, were—'Well, it's one comfort, since it's taken on to blow so, I've cut down most of the trees around us that would be likely to fall and crush us during the night.'"

We shall now offer a specimen or two of the tales told over the shantee fires; here is one on the origin of the Whip-poor-will, from the Indian mythology:—

"The father of Rau-che-wai-me, the Flying Pigeon of the Wisconsin, would not hear of her wedding Wai-o-naia, the young chief who had long sought her in marriage; yet, true to her plighted faith, she still continued to meet him every evening upon one of the tufted islets which stud the river in great profusion. Nightly through the long months of summer did the lovers keep their tryst, parting only after each meeting more and more endeared to each other. At length Wai-o-naia was ordered off upon a secret expedition against the Sioux: he departed so suddenly that there was no opportunity of bidding farewell to his betrothed: and his tribesmen, the better to give effect to his errand, gave out that the youth was no more, having perished in a fray with the Menomones, at the Winnebago portage. Rau-che-wai-me was inconsolable, but she dared not show her grief before her family; and the only relief she knew for her sorrow, was to swim over to the island by starlight, and calling upon the name of her lover, bewail the features she could behold no more. One night the sound of her voice attracted some of her father's people to the spot; and, startled at their

approach, she tried to climb a sapling in order to hide herself among its branches; but her frame was bowed with sorrow, and her weak limbs refused to aid her. 'Waw-o-naisa,' she cried, 'Waw-o-naisa!' and at each repetition of his name, her voice became shriller, while in the endeavour to screen herself in the underwood, a soft plumage began to clothe her delicate limbs which were wounded by the briars, and lifting pinions shot from under her arms which she tossed upward in distress; until her pursuers, when just about to seize the maid, saw nothing but the bird, which has ever since borne the name of her lover, flitting from bush to bush before them, and still repeating, 'Waw-o-naisa!—Waw-o-naisa!'

Another tale, of a like character, tells of the origin of the Indian corn:—

"There is a place on the banks of the softly-flowing Unadilla, not far from its confluence with the Susquehanna, which in former years was an extensive beaver-meadow. The short turf sloped down almost to the brink of the stream, whose banks in this place nourish not a single tree to shadow its waters. Here, where they flow over pebbles so smooth and shiny that the Indian maid who wandered along the margin, would pause to count over her strings of wampum, and think the beads had slipped away, there came one day some girls to bathe; and one, the most beautiful of all, lingered behind her companions to gather these bright pebbles from the bed of the river. A water-spirit who had assumed the form of a musquash, sat long watching her from the shore. He looked at her shining shoulders—at her dripping locks, and the gently swelling bosom over which they fell; and when the maid lifted her rounded limbs from the water, and stepped lightly upon the green sod, he too raised himself from the mossy nook where he had been hidden, and recovering his own shape, ran to embrace her. The maiden shrieked and fled, but the enamoured spirit pressed closely in pursuit, and the meadow affording no shrub nor covert to screen her from her eager pursuer, she turned again towards the stream she had left, and made for a spot where the wild flowers grew tall and rankly by the moist margin. The spirit still followed her; and, frightened and fatigued, the girl would have sunk upon the ground as he approached, had she not been supported by a tuft of flags while hastily seizing and twining them around her person to hide her shame. In that moment her slender form grew thinner and more rounded; her delicate feet became indurated in the loose soil that opened to receive them; the blades of the flag broadened around her fingers, and enclosed her hand; while the pearly pebbles that she held resolved themselves into milky grains, which were kept together by the plaited husk. The baffled water-spirit sprang to seize her by the long hair that yet floated in the breeze, but the silken tassels of the rustling maze was all that met his grasp."

The specimens we have given of this work are among the best we could select; the tales, generally, are but commonplace.

*Principles of General and Comparative Physiology, &c. &c.* By William B. Carpenter. Churchill.

*The Elements of Physiology, &c. &c., especially in Reference to the Constitution of Man.* By T. J. Aitkin, M.D. &c. Scott & Co.

A growing conviction of the importance of physiological knowledge, as an element of popular instruction, seems to be acting in some rather high ratio upon the craft of book-making; for scarcely a month passes without its attempt to introduce the lay reader into the adytum of vital science; the result being to ourselves, as reviewers, equivalent to an experimental course on the art of teaching. Hitherto, however, we have been far from arriving at an example of the best course to be observed in the process of popularizing this class of subjects: on the contrary, we grow more and more of opinion, that it is easier to cut, than to untie, the knot which it presents for solution. It is intellectually, no less than physically, true, that a whole is merely the aggregate of all its parts; and

it is as impossible, to get an exact notion of any science without some knowledge of all its particular facts, as to arrive at a proper solution of an arithmetical question from a partial statement of its numerical data. However general the views which a teacher may intend to convey, they must repose on something positive and individual; and he can neither make theory intelligible without some reference to such data; nor, in commencing instruction with facts, can he raise them from their isolation, and connect them according to their natural relations, without the use of some anticipating theory. With regard to anatomy, and the other natural sciences, on which physiology depends for its elementary facts and reasonings, the minds of general readers are usually mere blanks; and in the first statements presented to their consideration, there are so many unknown quantities, as most provokingly to embarrass the equation. In the teacher's labour, moreover, the actual values of these *x*, *y*, *z*'s, are not, as in algebraical workings, indifferent to the first steps of the process; but must be fixed by the professor from the beginning, subject only to the obligation of proof on some future occasion. If, then, in algebra it be necessary to admit no more of these unknown quantities than such as cannot be dispensed with, still more important is it to be sparing of their use in physiological demonstrations, where they not only obscure the argument, but beget a habit of carelessness in admitting unproved statements, and of leaning unduly upon authority.

In a popular treatise, altogether to avoid reference to particular facts, of which the reader may be supposed, and really is ignorant, is impossible; nor can it be attempted, without taking refuge in the generality of the propositions offered for consideration. But the farther general propositions are removed from an enumeration of the particulars which they embrace in their comprehension, the less is their real intellectual value; it is therefore possible so to teach a science, that while the pupil has a conceit that he has mastered the subject, he shall be made acquainted with nothing but meaningless words. On the other hand, a frequent appeal to confused accumulations of facts, never previously presented to the senses of the hearer, (or, at best, but imperfectly known to him,) or a too rigorous attempt to admit nothing into the judgment that has not first been studied as an object of sense, would not only confuse and embarrass, but would prove in practice a method altogether unfruitful. The earlier the acquaintance of the savage with nature, the larger does he of necessity draw upon his imagination in his interpretation of her phenomena: and so, too, does the child; inasmuch, that it may be laid down as an axiom, that, without some preliminary hypothesis, man cannot arrive at any true theory. In addressing the ignorant, something, then, must be allowed to this necessity; and the art of the teacher must consist in hitting a middle course in his earliest steps, neither wholly outstripping the pupil's previous knowledge, nor keeping so closely by his side as to make him his own instructor.

But exclusively of the newness of physiological facts and reasonings to the general reader,—of the paucity of the relations which these maintain with ordinary popular notions,—there is this other source of difficulty to the teacher, that nothing in physiology is really elemental. Wherever we attack the subject, we but impinge upon a circle, which has neither beginning nor end. In the living machine there is such a mutual dependence of parts and actions, that the knowledge to be obtained of each, in isolation from the rest, is defective and vague. Again, no individual function can be thoroughly understood without an acquaintance with all the various circumstances under which it is manifested, in every species of

animal or vegetable in which it is to be traced. Strictly speaking, the first advance into a physiological demonstration presupposes a general knowledge of anatomy, both human and comparative, and, therefore, also of natural history,—a knowledge which cannot be presumed in the general reader. The first question, therefore, is, how this knowledge is to be supplied. Plates, diagrams, and verbal descriptions fall far short of the necessary precision: the impressions they convey are not merely imperfect, but false; at best, they make the beholder acquainted only with an image, a phrase; and they convey little notion of the thing represented. For our own parts, we very much doubt whether the dissecting-room and the laboratory can be wholly dispensed with, in conveying even the merest outlines of physiology. We suspect that a butcher will come to the perusal of a physiological treatise better prepared than an ordinary University student, though he be a wrangler and a medalist; and will rise from the volume with a clearer idea of digestion, respiration, &c. &c., and of the conditions under which they are performed. If the professional student is obliged to have recourse to *visu voce* instruction, accompanied by actual demonstration, it seems, *à fortiori*, that the general inquirer should lie under at least an equal want of the same aids, however small the quantum of knowledge he seeks; provided he looks to more than the power of talking plausibly on the subject, and desires to apply his information in the business of life. Those who may remember the admirable popular course of lectures on anatomy, delivered by the late Sir B. Harwood to the undergraduates of Cambridge, must be aware that the requisite information for all general purposes can be communicated by an intelligent teacher, without trenching upon the time which should be devoted to other instruction. We are satisfied that courses of ten or twelve outline lectures might be given even in public schools, without stopping the progress of "the humanities;" and we do not see how young medical men could more usefully employ their surplus time, either with a view to fixing and proving their own knowledge, or to bespeaking "custom for the shop," than by opening such courses, wherever an audience could be got together. At first, probably, the lecture must be gratuitous, and the hearers even coaxed to attend; but in a short time the subject would inevitably prove attractive, and parents would gladly pay a small sum, not only for the instruction of their children, but of themselves also. In the present state of public opinion, it were idle to hope that either governments or public will take the initiative in this matter. The present proposed end of all above the most elementary education is exclusion—privilege; and it is accordingly directed to the ornamental, which few can afford, rather than the useful, for which all are eager. While the student seeks to be made—not a man, but—a gentleman, he will prefer Greek metres to scanning his own nature, and esteem the following the retreat of the Ten Thousand more profitable than tracing the course of nerves and arteries; simply because the one is not, and the other is, applicable to the purposes of universal humanity. In the mass of every society, however, there are individuals whose notions are more sane, and whose aspirations are more noble. Amongst these, we are accustomed to believe that medical men figure largely; and they could not do better service, than in awakening and spreading a taste for an important—if not the most important element of social amelioration—physiological fact. With such assistance, the composition of short cuts to the science would be materially facilitated, and their utility considerably extended: at present, we fear they are little better than a dead letter.

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Of the works at present before us, the former is addressed more immediately *ad clerum*, the latter *ad populum*. Dr. Aitkin expressly gives us to understand, in his preface, that his object is "to give such an account of the structure of the animal body, and especially that of man, as may be easily understood by those who may not previously have directed their attention to investigations of this kind"; and after noticing the failures of other similar attempts, he proposes to "afford such a description of the various structures of the body, as may serve to convey a correct idea of the organization, and to give such an account of their mode of action, as appears best to accord with experience and observation." Dr. Carpenter's volume speaks to those who are already somewhat proficient in natural science, and is altogether a work of higher pretensions. Its execution, moreover, bears a full proportion to its design. If we do not, therefore, enter upon an analysis of the work such as it merits, it is in obedience to our rule to avoid those specialities which stand apart from the sphere of common readers. Aiming at the diffusion of a maximum of information, and the fusion of all partial and sectarian peculiarities, into one common English (or rather European) mind, we cannot yield our space to works intelligible or interesting only to one class. However deeply, therefore, we have it at heart, to promote a more general cultivation of physiological science, as an essential element of moral and social knowledge, (for the end of such knowledge is but to regulate our desires, and to attain to a wholesome satisfaction of our wants,) we still despair of so handling the subject, as to convey useful instruction, and to make ourselves understood concerning it by the general public. We must rest contented, then, with a simple recommendation of the volume to such of our readers whose desire for this sort of instruction will lead them beyond the mere perusal of an elementary treatise, and who bring to the study of vital phenomena some degree of preliminary information. That the author has perfectly succeeded in attaining that *just milieu* of which we have spoken, we are not qualified to declare; for we cannot go back to the intellectual condition, which would find the proof of the pudding in the eating. To us, indeed, the book is easy reading, and pursues its theme by a natural and intelligible progression; but whether it may not sometimes get the start of the mere student, is another question. We would, however, suggest to the author, that if Condillac's proposition be true, and the perfection of a science consists in that of its vocabulary, physiology has yet much improvement to make in its nomenclature; more especially as concerns a vast many metaphysical abstractions, which physiologically represent nothing, while they are set up as the signs of positive and real existences. To these terms Dr. Carpenter seems to cling with a sort of predilection: sometimes apparently their dupe, and sometimes using them inadvertently, so as to express more than he intends. We question, also, whether he does not occasionally indulge in rather a licentious use of final causes, which, however appropriate to works of natural theology, are little better than stumbling blocks in the way of rigorous demonstration.

Of Dr. Aitkin's 'Elements,' though the work of an able physiologist, we must speak less favourably. Considered as addressed to general readers, it is overlaid with facts, and too learned for their use; while, as a text-book for a regular student, it wants that mass of comparative physiology that makes Dr. Carpenter's volume so luminous. It is, moreover, less philosophical, both in its conceptions and its language, than might reasonably have been expected. We occasionally miss, at least, that grasp of the master-mind, which

rises from particulars to generals with a steady and clear progression, and renders the most transcendental truths manifest corollaries on the individual phenomena. The argumentation, also, is now and then wanting in that cogency which the habit of teaching usually confers.

#### The Comic Annual for 1839. By Thomas Hood.

(Second Notice.)

Though the 'Comic' has been delayed somewhat beyond the Publisher's promise, we think our readers will agree with us, that, like the last peach on a sunny wall, it has benefited by all sweet influences, and is richer and more mellow than its fellows. But we must, without preface, proceed to our promised extracts.

Mr. Hood has taken up some of those absurd phrases which float about the town,—no one knowing whence they come—and given them a meaning. As a specimen, we may select a verse or two to illustrate one of our wood-cuts:—

Come, my old hat, my steps attend!  
However wags may sneer and scoff,  
My castor still shall be my friend,  
For I'll not be a castor off.  
So take again your olden place,  
That always found you fit and pat,  
Whatever mode might please the race,  
All round my hat, all round my hat!

The Quaker loves an ample brim,  
A hat that bows to no salam—  
And dear the heaver is to him  
As if it never made a dam.  
All men in drab he calleth friends;  
But there's a broader brim than that—  
Give me the love that comprehends  
All round my hat, all round my hat!  
The Monarch binds his brows in gold,  
With gems and pearls to sparkle there;  
But still a hat, a hat that's old,  
They say is much more easy wear.  
At royal state I'll not repine  
For Kaiser, King, or Autocrat.  
Whilist there's a golden sun to shine  
All round my hat, all round my hat!

As yet, my hat, you've got a crown;  
A little nap the brush can find;  
You are not very, very brown,  
Nor very much scrubb'd up behind.  
As yet your brim is broad and brave,  
I took some little care of that,  
By not saluting every knave  
All round my hat, all round my hat!

As yet the best of womankind  
Continues all that wife should be,  
And in the self-same room I find,  
Her bonnet and my hat agree.  
But say the bliss should not endure,  
That she should turn a perfect cat,  
I'd trust to time to bring a cure,  
All round my hat, all round my hat!



We must now indulge in a sketch on the road, and this, too, we shall illustrate with a wood-cut, and what road more in fashion than—

#### The Railway.

"My acquaintance with railways commenced on the Belgian line, at the quaint, ancient, and picturesque city of Bruges. The carriages were all

full, except the one nearest the engine, against which there is some prejudice, as being the vehicle that 'must bust fust.' There was only one other passenger, a lady, in the opposite seat; and, as far as the time allowed, we entered into conversation. 'This is a quick mode of travelling, madam, compared with the old horse-powers.'—'I really wish I could think so, Sir,' replied the lady; 'but it is far from the saving, either in time or expense, that I was led to anticipate. I am going to Ostend, and, according to my own highly-raised expectations, I ought to have dined there yesterday. What is more provoking, I brought some cold provision along with me, but it was deposited by mistake amongst the luggage, and I am informed that I cannot get at either till the end of my journey.' There was no time to answer; 'Chak! chak! chakery-chit-chittery-churr!' talked the engine, increasing in velocity every minute. Houses flew past—then cottages and little gardens, with groups of children's faces, all looking alike, and all going to cheer, but we left the voices behind. • • • Being somewhat hard of hearing, the rumble caused by the friction of the wheels and rails, however slight, was sufficient to disconcert my organ. The lady's lips kept moving, but I could not distinguish a syllable. There was no alternative but to watch the moving diorama that was gliding past the window. The staple article of the view was a mud bank, which seemed being reeled off like a long broad drab watered ribbon. Now and then came a workman, with difficulty distinguished from his burrow, his red night-cap flashing by like a fiery meteor. The willows which bordered the road, or marked the boundaries of a field, coalesced into a stream of foliage. The peasant, who stood to stare at us, seemed to be enjoying a rapid slide in the opposite direction, whilst occasionally a cur would dart out of a cottage to bark at the train, and by running parallel with us, with all his might, contrived to appear stationary, violently lifting up his legs and putting them down again to no purpose. Fresh editions of the broad ditches, and the scrubby trees, and the gloomy flats, kept whirling past. 'A great sameness,' said the lady, availing herself of a temporary halt to resume the subject; 'and as if to render the uniformity still more intolerable, Art imitating Nature, the inhabitants have made duplicates of their principal towns, as like each other as two peas—for instance, two Ghents and two Bruges.'—I turned over in my mind the lady's extraordinary information, which certainly did not agree with any I had derived from my Belgian Guide Book.—'Did I understand you, Madam, to say *two* Bruges?'—'Certainly, Sir, and as like each other as the two Dromedaries. It seems to be characteristic of the people, as well as the carillons, which, by the way, I observed at both the Ghents.'—'Both the Ghents, Madam?'—'Excuse me, Madam, but it really appears to me that you must have taken the wrong train, and returned, as our capital criminals are sentenced, to the place from whence you came.'—'The wrong train!' shouted the lady, rather indignantly. 'O Sir, that's impossible! Nobody can be so careless as I am,—for I know neither French nor Flemish, and accordingly am personally on my guard. Instead of sauntering about every place I arrive at, like other travellers, I make it a rule to remain invariably on the spot (the station I believe it is called), ready to set out with the very next train.'—'But, my dear madam, the next train'—'But, my dear Sir—excuse me. If not the very next train, you can be at no loss to know when to start. The railway people take care of that. For instance: here, at the *last* Bruges, you pay for your ticket to Ostend—mark me, Sir, to Ostend—and you are retained in a sitting-room, the back door of which is kept locked. When the door is opened you are admitted into the station-yard—and you find a train ready to start—your own train of course. You get in and—' A loud indescribable screech, called whistling, intended to give warning of our approach, here interrupted the argument. We were going at a pace which threatened to soon bring us to our destination.—The spires, the lighthouse, and the masts of the shipping, were so distinctly visible that I could not anticipate any blunder. I supposed, therefore, that the lady might be safely left to her own circumspection, and was doubly occupied in the collection of my luggage, and the conversation of some friends who had awaited my arrival,—when suddenly I heard the voice of my

quondam fellow traveller.—“O Lord! I shall be too late!” and before I could recover from my astonishment, I saw her precipitately jump into a *char-à-banc*, and whirl off with the inland train on a third visit to the quaint, ancient, and picturesque city of Bruges!”



TRAINS COMING IN.

There are many questions which in these stirring times excite a good deal of public attention, but they are generally of mere national, and often of mere *notional* importance; but the ‘Assistant Draper’s Petition’ touches on a subject of universal interest:—

“It is,” says Mr. Hood, “the standard complaint against jokers, and whist-players, and children, whether playing or crying—that they ‘never know when to leave off.’ It is the common charge against English winters and flannel waistcoats—it is occasionally hinted of rich and elderly relations—it is constantly said of snuff-takers, and gentlemen who enjoy a glass of good wine—that they ‘do not know when to leave off.’ It is the fault oftenest found with certain preachers, sundry poets and all prosers, scolds, parliamentary orators, superannuated story-tellers, she-gossips, morning-calls, and some leave-takers, that they ‘do not know when to leave off.’ It is insinuated as to gowns and coats, of which waiting-men and waiting-women have the reversion. It is characteristic of a Change Alley speculator—of a beaten boxer—of a builder’s row, with his own name to it—of Hollando-Belgie protocols of German metaphysics—of works in numbers—of buyers and sellers on credit—of a theatrical calce—of a shoking bad hat—and of the Gentleman’s Magazine, that they ‘do not know when to leave off.’ A romp—al. Murphy’s frosts, showers, storms and hurricanes—and the Wandering Jew, are in the same predicament.”

The assistant drapers, it appears, have decided that seven is the proper hour, and from the following poetical address they appear to have rhyme as well as reason to offer in support of their resolution:—

*The Drapers’ Petition.*

Pity the sorrows of a class of men,  
Who, though they bow to fashion and frivolity,  
No fancied claims or woes fictitious pen,  
But wrongs ell-wide, and of a lasting quality.

Oppress’d and discontented with our lot,  
Amongst the clamorous we take our station;  
A host of Ribbon Men—yet is there not  
One piece of Irish in our agitation.

We do revere Her Majesty the Queen,  
We venerate our Glorious Constitution;  
We joy King William’s advent should have been,  
And only want a Counter Revolution.

We love the sex:—to serve them is a bliss!  
We trust they find us civil, never surly;  
All that we hope of female friends is this,  
That their last linen may be wanted early.

Ah! who can tell the miseries of men,  
That serve the very cheapest shops in town;  
Till faint and weary, they leave off at ten,  
Knock’d up by ladies beating of ‘em down!

But has not Hamlet his opinion given—  
O Hamlet had a heart for Drapers’ servants!  
That custom is—say custom after seven—  
“More honour’d in the breach than the observance.”

O come then, gentle ladies, come in time,  
O’erwhelm our counters, and unload our shelves;  
Torment us all unto the seventh chime,  
But let us have the remnant to ourselves!

We long for thoughts of intellectual kind,  
And not to go bewild’r’d to our beds;  
With stuff and fustian taking up the mind,  
And pins and needles running in our heads!

Till sick with toil, and lassitude extreme,  
We often think, when we are dull and vapoury;  
The bliss of Paradise was so supreme,  
Because that Adam did not deal in drapery.

But we must not idle away after this pleasant fashion; so we pass, without a word, ‘Ali Ben Nous,’ ‘The Queries in Natural History,’ ‘A Plain Direction,’ ‘The Character,’ a house-keeping anecdote, worthy serious attention, that we may find room for a specimen of—

*A Flying Visit.*

The by-gone September, As folks may remember,  
At least if their memory saves but an ember,  
One fine afternoon,  
There went up a Balloon,  
Which did not return to the Earth very soon.

For, nearing the sky,  
At about a mile high,  
The Aëronaut bold had resolved on a fly;  
So cutting his string,  
In a Parcel doing,  
Down he came in a field like a lark from the wing.

Meanwhile, thus adrift,  
The Balloon made a shift  
To rise very fast, with no burthen to lift;  
It got very small,  
Then to nothing at all;  
And then rose the question of where it would fall?

The many curious speculations on this subject we must leave untold—

However, at last,  
When six weeks had gone past,  
Intelligence came of a plausible cast.

The news soon spread that it was once again visible.

But still to and fro  
It continued to go,  
As if looking out for soft places below;  
No difficult job,  
It had only to bob  
Slap dash down at once on the heads of the mob.

Eventually the phenomenon came more distinctly in sight.

Plain to be seen,  
Underneath the machine,  
There dangled a mortal—some swore it was Green;  
Some Mason could spy;  
Others named Mr. Gye;  
Or Holland, compell’d by the Belgians to fly.

But all were at fault;  
From the heavenly vault  
The falling balloon came at last to a halt;  
And bounce! with the jar  
Of descending so far,

An outlandish Creature was thrown from the car!  
The personal description of the odd little monster, a sort of mooncalf, we must also pass.

Meanwhile, with a sigh,  
Having open’d one eye,  
The Stranger rose up on his seat by and by;  
And finding his tongue,  
Thus he said, or he sung,  
“Mi eriky bo biggany kickery bung!”

“Lord! what does he speak!”  
“It’s Dog-Latin—it’s Greek!”  
“It’s some sort of slang for to puzzle a Beak!”

“It’s not parly voo,”  
Cried a schoolboy or two,  
“Nor Hebrew at all,” said a wandering Jew.

Some guess’d it high Dutch,  
Others thought it had much  
In sound of the true Hoky-poky-ish touch;  
But none could be poz.

What the Dickens! (not Boz)  
No mortal could tell what the Dickens it was!  
When who should come pat,  
In a moment like that.

But Bowring to see what the people were at—  
A Doctor well able,  
Without any fable,  
To talk and translate all the babble of Babel.

Then stretching his hand,  
As you see Daniel stand,  
In the Feast of Belshazzar, that picture so grand!  
Without more delay,  
In the Hamilton way  
He English’d whatever the Elf had to say.

“Kwak kraziboo ban,  
I’m the Lunatic Man,  
Confin’d in the Moon since creation began—  
Sit muggy biog,  
Whom except in a fog  
You see with a Lantern, a Bush, and a Dog.

“Long sinery lear,  
For this many a year,  
I’ve long’d to drop in at your own little sphere,—  
Och, pad-mad aroon  
Till one fine afternoon,  
I found that Wind-Coach on the horns of the Moon.

“Cush quackery go,  
But, besides you must know,  
I’d heard of a prophiting Prophet below;  
Big botherum blither,  
Who pretended to gather  
The tricks that the Moon meant to play with the weather.

“So Criemus an crash,  
Being shortish of cash,  
I thought I’d a right to partake of the hash—  
Slirk wizzle an smak,  
So I’m come with a pack  
To sell to the trade of My Own Almanack.

“Wept wepton wish wept,  
Pray this Copy accept!”  
But here on the Stranger some Kidnappers leapt  
For why? a shrewd man  
Had devised a sly plan

The Wonder to grab for a show Caravan.

The Doctor, however, interposed. Among other reasons, he observed:—

“You’d best let him go—  
If you keep him below,  
The Moon will not change, and the tides will not flow.

So awful a threat  
Took effect on the set;  
The fright, tho’, was more than their Guest could forget;  
So taking a jump,  
In the car he came plump,  
And threw all the ballast right out in a lump.

Up soar’d the machine,  
With its yellow and green;  
But still the pale face of the Creature was seen,  
Who cried from the car  
“Dam in yoo-man bi gar!”

That is,—“What a sad set of villains you are!”

Howbeit, at some height,  
He threw down quite a flight  
Of Almanacks, wishing to set us all right—  
And, thanks to the boon,  
We shall see very soon

If Murphy knows most, or the Man in the Moon!

We must still hurry on, that we may give a specimen of

*Rural Felicity.*

Well, the country’s a pleasant place, sure enough, for people that’s country born,  
And useful, no doubt, in a natural way, for growing our grass and our corn.  
It was kindly meant of my cousin Giles, to write and invite me down,  
Tho’ as yet all I’ve seen of a pastoral life only makes one more partial to town.

At first I thought I was really come down into all sorts of rural bliss,  
For Porkington Place, with its cows and its pigs, and its poultry, looks not much amiss;  
There’s something about a dairy farm, with its different kinds of live stock,  
That puts one in mind of Paradise, and Adam and his innocent flock;  
But somehow the good old Elysium fields have not been well handed down,  
And as yet I have found no fields to prefer to dear Leicester Fields up in town.

To be sure it is pleasant to walk in the meads, and so I should like for miles,  
If it wasn’t for clodpoles of carpenters, that put up such crooked stiles;  
For the bars jut out, and you must jut out, till you’re almost broken in two,  
If you clamber over you’re certain sure of a fall, and you stick if you try to creep through.  
Of course, in the end, one learns how to climb without constant tumbles down,  
But still, as to walking so stylishly, it’s pleasanter done about town.

There’s a way, I know, to avoid the stiles, and that’s by a walk in a lane,  
And I did find a very nice shady one, but I never dared go again,  
For who should I meet but a rampaging bull, that wouldn’t be kept in the pound.  
A trying to toss the whole world at once, by sticking his horns in the ground.

And that, by-the-by, is another thing, that pulls rural pleasures down,  
Every day in the country is cattle-day, and there’s only two up in town.

Then I’ve rose with the sun, to go brushing away at the first early pearly dew,  
And to meet Aurora, or whatever’s her name, and I always got wetted through;



My shoes are like sops, and I caught a bad cold, and a nice draggle-tail to my gown.

But worse than that, in a long rural walk, suppose that it blows up for rain,  
And all at once you discover yourself in a real St. Swithin's Lane;

And while you're running all duck'd and drown'd, and pelted with sixpenny drops,  
"Fine weather," you hear the farmers say; "a nice growing show'r for the crops!"

But who's to crop me another new hat, or grow me another new gown?  
For you can't take a shilling fare with a plough as you do with the hackneys in town.

Then how sweet, some say, on a mossy bank a verdurous seat to find,

But for my part I always found it a joy that brought a repentance behind;

For the juicy grass with its nasty green has stained a whole breadth of my gown—  
And when gowns are dyed, I needn't say, it's much better done up in town.

As for country fare, the first morning I came I heard such a shrill piece of work!

And ever since—and it's ten days ago—we've lived upon nothing but pork;

One Sunday except, and then I turn'd sick, a plague take all contriv'd cooks!

Why didn't they tell me, before I had dined, they made pigeon pies of the rooks?

Then she gooseberry wine, though its pleasant when up, it doesn't agree when its down,  
But it serv'd me right like a gooseberry fool to look for clampagne out of town!

To be sure cousin G. meant it all for the best when he started this pastoral plan,  
And his wife is a worthy domestic soul, and she teaches me all that she can,

Such as making of cheese, and curing of hams, but I'm sure that I never shall learn;

And I've fetch'd more back-ache than butter as yet, by chumping away at the churn.

Here, perhaps, we ought to conclude; but still the great revolution at Stoke Pogis troubles us; our correspondent turns out to have been no better than "a spurious profit in the Pock-rifer." There has been a fresh outbreak, and the following incendiary song has been seized by the recorder, on one of the members of the Corresponding Society.

Come, all conflagrating fellows,  
Let us have a glorious rig:  
Sing old Rose, and burn the bellows!  
Burn me, but I'll burn my wig!

Christmas time is all before us:  
Burn all puddings, north and south.  
Burn the Turkey—Burn the Devil!  
Burn snap-dragon! burn your mouth!

Burn the coals! they're up at sixty!  
Burn Burn's Justice—burn old Coke.  
Burn the cheesnuts. Burn the shovel!  
Burn a fire, and burn the smoke!

Burn burnt almonds. Burn burnt brandy.  
Let all burnings have a turn.  
Burn Chabert, the Salamander,—  
Burn the man that wouldn't burn!

Burn the old year out, don't ring it;  
Burn the one that must begin.  
Burn Lang Syne! and, whilst you're burning,  
Burn the burn he paided in.

Burn the boxing! Burn the Beadle!  
Burn the baker! Burn his man!  
Burn the butcher—Burn the dustman.  
Burn the sweeper, if you can!

Burn the Postman! burn the postage!  
Burn the knocker—burn the bell!  
Burn the folks that come for money!  
Burn the bills—and burn 'em well.

Burn the Parish! Burn the rating!  
Burn all taxes in a mass!  
Burn the paving! Burn the Lighting!  
Burn the burners! Burn the gas!

Burn all candles, white or yellow—  
Burn for war, and not for peace!  
Burn the Car of all the Tallow!  
Burn the King of all the Greece!

Burn all canthers—burn in Smithfield.  
Burn Tea-Tattle hum and bug;  
Burn his kettle, burn his water,  
Burn his muffin, burn his mug!

Burn the breams of meddling vicars,  
Picking holes in Anna's Urns!  
Burn all Steers's Opodeldoc,  
Just for being good for burns.

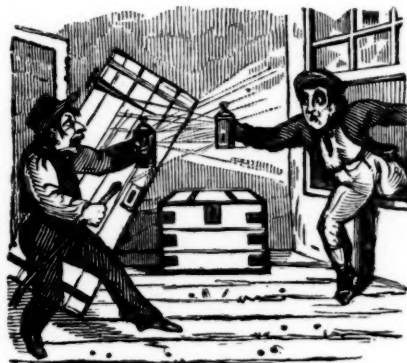
Burn all swindlers! Burn Asphaltum!  
Burn the money-lenders down—  
Burn all schemes that burn one's fingers!  
Burn the Cheapest House in town!

Burn the Whigs! and burn the Tories!  
Burn all parties, great and small!  
Burn that everlasting Poynder—  
Burn his Suttrees once for all!

Burn the fop that burns tobacco.  
Burn a Critic that condemns.  
Burn Lucifer and all his matches!  
Burn the fool that burns the Thames!

For the amusement of our medical friends, we conclude with an anecdote from the 'Queries in Natural History':—

"Talking of Cats, the following characteristic anecdote of an eminent but eccentric surgeon has never before appeared in print. A poor woman went to him to inquire what was the proper treatment for some bodily wound. 'Put on a Cataplasm,' was the answer. 'But, Doctor, it's for a little child.' 'Then put on a Kittenplasm.'"



DOUBLE ENTRY.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Love's Exchange: a Tale*, by Charles John Boyle. 3 vols.—For many weeks past, by means of urgent advertisements, Mr. Boyle has been calling upon us to—

—“sit down,  
And let him wring our hearts.”

Well, down we sat, at last,—but alas for our hearts! though they are not utterly dry and stony it is to be hoped, Mr. Boyle has failed to wring them! Page upon page of smooth writing—scene after scene of cleverly-balanced dialogue—chapter laid to chapter of simulated passion—these are not the engines to give even the gentlest of novel readers one moment's heart-ache. But the disproportion between the force of Mr. Boyle's motto and the want of force in his story, must not make us unjust to a tale of average merit, as regards variety and construction. The title forewarns us that the heroine, Mabel,—a foundling, adopted by the chaste and saintly Lady Helen Loftus, one of Queen Anne's discarded friends,—betrothed, in the first volume, to Lionel Lord Bourchier, nephew to Lady Helen—is to be sorely troubled in the course of her true love: the troubling spirit being her friend Margaret Honeton, the daughter of a revengeful, rejected lover of Lady Helen's. Margaret resolves to seduce Lord Bourchier from his allegiance, and proceeds with a diabolical hypocrisy peculiar to novels. She succeeds: but after a time,—when we have been permitted to

hope that Mabel may find a comforter better calculated to ensure her happiness than the butterfly lord, a second act of “the wringing” begins, and the poor girl is abandoned to more desperate trials than ever,—trials, indeed, insurmountable by any save a novelist of little fear and great invention. We ought further to mention, the existence of an under-current of portentous and unexplicated crime connected with the Honeton family, which flows onward steadily throughout the tale, until the “charm's wound up” in its close. How far Mr. Boyle has succeeded in the management of his catastrophe, we leave others to determine.

*Rob of the Bowl, a Romance of the days of Charles II.*, by J. P. Kennedy.—We do not like this tale half so well as its author's ‘Horse-shoe Robinson,’ though it contains many spirited scenes, and highly wrought descriptions. The latter novel was American in its dialogue, in its characters, in its very exaggerations of style; whereas this ‘Rob of the Bowl’ is hybrid.—a book, which from its want of individuality might owe its origin to an English, an Irish, or even a French author. In the scenes between the dwarf cripple, whence the romance derives its name, and Cockle-craft the flaunting free-trader, Mr. Kennedy shows that he has not forgotten the group formed by Elshie of Mucklestane Moor and Willie of Westburnflat in ‘The Black Dwarf’—in other places we find passages that recall ‘The Pirate.’ The hero, Albert Verheyden, is the old-established sentimental secretary, who of



IN BLACK FOR A FRIEND.

course turns out to be something more, towards the close of the third volume: while for pillar to the story—that is, the man who is to perform wonderful feats and unconsciously discourse dry wisdom after the fashion of Captain Dalgetty and Leatherstocking—we have Captain Jasper Dauntrees; the drolls of the piece being one Garret Weasel, the publican, (need we add a double of Jerry Sneak?) and his wife, a younger and prettier Mrs. Quickly, in a suit of scarlet and green. What has been said will make it clear to the reader, that ‘Rob of the Bowl’ is not one of the American novels, in which he is to look for American life, character, or isms.

*The Annual Register, or a View of the History, Politics, and Literature, of the Year 1837.*—This volume is discreditably to all parties engaged in the publication. One half of it is absolute trash—the one hundred and twenty-eight pages called the Chronicle of Events, contain a mere crude undigested heap of utter rubbish, taken without selection or apparent purpose from the daily papers; another eighty pages (!) are filled with an account of births, marriages, and deaths, of some 1200 or more persons, the vast majority of whom have given or will give no other sign of their existence. Then follow long lists of promotions, appointments, &c., from the Gazette. But the consummation of absurdity in the title-page, which consists of one extract of two pages, without comment, from the Life of Scott, and half

a dozen short pieces of poetry transferred from the magazines or annuals. It is very true, that it would be folly to pretend to give a critical history of our literature in the fifty octavo pages which, under the best arrangement, is probably the utmost space that could be allotted to the subject, seeing that our own huge quarto volume is not more than sufficient for the purpose; but this only shows the necessity for remodelling the whole work. When the *Register* was projected and first published, now nearly a century ago, journals expressly devoted to literature and science were not in existence; and the selected extracts and papers which appeared in the earlier volumes were therefore of value and of interest; but something different is now required. We are, however, of opinion, that if the work were written and compiled with discriminating care and judgment, there would be abundance of room for all matters of interest, literature included. We know not, indeed, that a more valuable paper could be written, or one more in agreement with the spirit and intention of such a work than a calm and philosophic review of our literature,—of the obvious and distinguishing features which characterize it at certain stated intervals. The writer would have the advantage over us weekly journalists of embracing at one view the entire subject; and while we are perplexed with multitudinous details, and obliged to touch on its philosophy in petty paragraphs as occasion offers and leisure serves, he would be enabled to classify and treat of it as a whole. But we are not called on to offer a scheme for the improvement of the work, and shall therefore rest content with entering a protest against it as at present manufactured.

*The Public Buildings erected in the West of England, as designed by John Foulston, F.R.I.B.A.* 4to.—Mr. Foulston, an architect, extensively employed at Plymouth and the neighbourhood, seeks to record here the results of his experience in constructive architecture. Less solicitous to attract by the allurements of highly-finished engravings, than to instruct by a collection of useful details, he has allowed his illustrations to be executed in a very rough manner; and it may be observed, that they are rendered unnecessarily numerous by the introduction of details of columns, entablatures, mouldings, doors and windows, &c., which, in point of taste, it would not be safe for the student to adopt as models. At the beginning of the present century, Plymouth was a mere seaport town, without any edifice worthy of notice. It now boasts its hotel, assembly rooms, and theatre, united in one imposing mass of buildings; its Athenæum, public library, churches, and Exchange, more or less important, and all executed by the author. Devonport, a few years since a mere suburb of Plymouth, but now itself a borough, presents in Ker Street a remarkable cluster of buildings, combining, in one group, the Town Hall, the column, with its rocky base, 124 feet high, erected to commemorate the change of name from Plymouth Dock to Devonport; Mount Zion chapel, and the Civil and Military Library, each presenting a different style of architecture—an experiment to reconcile the incongruous assemblage of Greek, Moresque or Oriental, and Egyptian. These important edifices reflect credit upon the public spirit of these towns, and upon their architect, although in some points they are exceptionable as regards taste; but unqualified praise may be bestowed on the ingenuity and mechanical ability evinced, particularly in the construction of the theatre, with its roof formed of sheet iron, and in the skilful contrivance by which he avoided the expense of a scaffolding for the construction of the commemorative column. We were also pleased with many of the details connected with his Lunatic Asylum. In fact, the volume contains a mass of information in constructive architecture, which may be advantageously referred to by the architect, the student, and the builder.

*Sparks's Life of Washington*, 2 vols.—We fear that we occasionally not only lead but mislead the publishers. Sparks's Life and Writings of Washington, is a valuable historical work, (*Athen.* No. 573.) but we are not prepared to say, and did not hint on introducing it to an English public, that it would be judicious to reprint it. Mr. Colburn, however, has taken a middle course—published the Life and a selection only from the papers; which he promises to follow up with the private correspondence of

Washington. We wish him success, but cannot promise it.

*Incidents of Travel, &c.*, by J. G. Stephens.—The edition by the Messrs. Curry, of Dublin, which we announced some time since as forthcoming—and a very neat and cheap one.

*Byron and the Abbey*, by H. A. Driver.—There is nothing new in this pamphlet. The object is to show that no sound reason can be given for the exclusion of the monument, but that under circumstances it would be better to erect a Pantheon for the statues of our illustrious dead. These subjects were fully discussed months since in this journal (No. 567).

*Irvine's London Flora*—is a systematical arrangement of the phenagomous plants found in the neighbourhood of London, which, in the mind of the author, signifies a district bounded by the Channel on the south, and extending into Lincolnshire and Derbyshire on the north; a kind of railway neighbourhood, it must be confessed. The object of the work seems more particularly to be the indication of localities, for which it will be found useful.

*Cooper's Catalogue of the British Natural Orders and Genera*—is a list of names printed on a broadside for the use of collectors, who are to cut the names out of the list and to convert them into labels for their collections.

*The Hermit's Tale, a Poem*,—is printed for the author. It would never have been seen in type but for this circumstance.

*The Sabbath Book*, by C. Woodfall.—This little volume contains a judicious selection from the writings of divines and moralists in reference to the great truths of religion.

*List of New Books.*—Tales and Legends of the Isle of Wight, by A. Elder, Esq. 6s. cl.—Dun's Manual of Private or Ball-Room Dancing, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.—Lecount's History of the London and Birmingham Railway, 8vo. 5s.—The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle, 1838, 8vo. 13s. 6d. bds.—Mines's Manufacturer's Assistant, 2nd edit. 18mo. 2s. cl.—Bennett's Arcanum of Geometry, 8vo. 16s. cl.—Wesley's Journal, new edit. 8vo. 14s. cl.—Janet, or Glances at Human Nature, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. bds.—Gazella, or Rikar the Wanderer, post 8vo. 7s. bds.—The Sabbath Book, by Charles Woodfall, 6s. cl.—Stephens's History of South Australia, 8vo. 2nd edit. 8s. cl.—Ecclesiastical Legal Guide. Part I. royal 8vo. 15s. cl.—Naturalist's Library, Vol. XXIII. Marine Amphibies, 6s. cl.—Temple's Domestic Altar, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.—Percival's Sermons at the Chapel Royal, 8vo.—My First Concealment, by W. A. Currie, Esq. 18mo. 2s. cl.—Journal of the London Statistical Society, Vol. I. 8vo. 15s. cl.—Burns's Christian Daily Portion, or Golden Pot of Manna, new edit. 12mo. 5s. 6d. cl.—Sketches and Skeletons of Sermons, Vol. IV. 12mo. 4s. 6d. cl.—Horace Vernon, or Life in the West, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. bds.—Moore's Lalla Rookh, illustrated, royal 8vo. 21s. cl.—Inwood's Tables for Purchasing Estates, 8th edit. 7s. bds.—Hooper's Medical Dictionary, new edit. 8vo. 30s. bds.—Rejected Addresses, new edit. 6s. 6d. cl.—Campbell's Poetical Works, 12mo. 6s. cl.—Select English Poetry for Schools, 18mo. 4s. cl.—Scenes at Home and Abroad, by H. B. Hall, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.—Stephens's History of South Australia, 8vo. 8s. cloth.

#### STATE OF EDUCATION IN AUSTRIA.

By M. ST.-MARC GIRARDIN.

I entered Austria, fully persuaded that, as far as public instruction went, it was a country of ignorant darkness. It is, on the contrary, a country in which the system of popular instruction is most widely spread. Whence, then, comes the bad reputation of Austria in reference to this subject? It is necessary to explain this in a few words, before entering on the details of the organization of its different schools.

That which constitutes the chief merit of the Austrian government, is its constant reference to consequences and results. It is an admirably ordered system, in which each part is connected with, and corresponds to, every other: a system in which all is harmony and regularity—in which there are neither inconsistencies nor opposition. It is a machine, whose parts, carefully adapted to each other, proceed with remarkable order and unity. The administration is, in all its details, organized according to the governing principle; so that neither shock, disorder, nor embarrassment arises: examine what part you may in the administration, you will find everywhere the same principles—the same maxims. The chief aim of Austrian policy is peace: it wishes the people to enjoy peace, to attain which it wishes them to enjoy happiness. It wishes to instruct them; and that instruction should be such as teaches man to avail himself of his power and the powers of nature—such

as forms good artisans and workmen, not such as rouses the mind, and awakens doubt, reason, or examination. Would you become a mechanic, a manufacturer, agriculturist, architect, you may find in Austria all that is necessary for your object: schools, colleges, professors, laboratories, museums. But should you desire to become a man of letters—a public man—to reason and discuss—you must go elsewhere. The useful, rather than the beautiful—the practical, more than the theoretical—care of the body, more than of the mind, such is the fundamental maxim of Austrian government. Hence arises the nothingness of classic and the prosperity of other studies—the pitiful obscurity of the university of Vienna, and the merited renown of its Polytechnic Institution. In Austria, men of learning, or rather letters, themselves are discountenanced. When the Emperor Francis, ten years ago, told the professors of Laybach that he disliked learned men, it was not science, but literature and letters that he reprobated. Thus explained, the phrase may still appear absurd, but it is no longer a blasphemy against all civilization. The Emperor Francis preferred science to letters—those studies which have for their object a trade or calling, to studies called liberal, which ornament and enlarge the mind. He was a partisan of useful, an adversary of classical, education. This is the true import of his speech to the professors.

The Austrian government endeavours to solve two great problems: it desires the happiness of the subject, but does not wish that he should ever aspire to those free and lofty thoughts which impart happiness and tranquillity. It desires the education of the people, but does not wish their minds to be so emboldened by development as to lead them to examine existing political institutions. Hitherto, it seems to have succeeded. Its inhabitants are rich, commerce flourishes, agriculture prospers; there is much wealth—much happiness even, if you be not too curious and refined in your speculations as to what this latter consists in. Thanks to his quiet temperament, the Austrian becomes rich, without becoming either haughty or disorderly. There is but little pride in Austria—those of the middle class acquire wealth without desiring to rival the nobility. Instruction and science are common, but the public mind is turned to the acquisition and practice of the useful arts. The people are instructed, and knowledge spreads, but they never think of inquiring the reason of established things. There is ease without assumption, education without any desire of discussion or inquiry. Never before have wealth and intelligence—the two great powers of the social state—been regulated and managed with more art and skill—never have their advantages been more adroitly separated from their abuses. To this system there is but one objection—how long will it endure? Is not that which she now enjoys the golden age of Austria? Has not everything reached the utmost maturity? Has not this system of administration, full of the spirit of Joseph II., given equality to all, without being in the least liberal? This wealth of the people, without tumult and without desire of liberty—this system of instruction, without desire of inquiry—all that agree and combine thus happily together—have they not reached their most perfect development?

It is easy to see, after what has been said, that Austria is, in a manner, the country of that intermediate instruction which prepares men for practical and useful professions in society. But before we touch upon the intermediate instruction, let us say a few words of the primary, and see how it is organized.

Primary instruction is, from its nature, general. It applies to every one. But in proportion as it is raised, it ought also, according to Austrian principles, to become special, in order to avoid the danger of becoming vague and superficial. This progressive transformation from primary and general to special instruction, is what we would particularly notice.

*Asylums.*—The education of the people ought to commence in these. There are some in Austria, but they have not been long established: those of Vienna only date from 1831.

*Public Schools.*—The asylums retain children until the age of five years. At this age, they enter a school, and remain there until the end of their twelfth year. Parents are obliged to send their children to them. The law, in this respect, enters into

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mutely into all details, that no one may be able to free himself from the obligation. There is, in every parish, a list of all the children, and this list is compared with the registry of births. A child who completes his fifth year in the midst of the scholar year, and who only enters the school at the commencement of the following year, can only leave it after he has passed his twelfth year. It is forbidden to take into service any labourer or servant who does not show a certificate from the curé of the parish in which he went to school, stating that he had done so, had been instructed in religion, and gone through the prescribed examination. Here we see the precautions taken by the law to enforce the obligation of sending children to school. There is a still more remarkable article relative to children who work in manufactories. Every one is aware of the complaints raised in England concerning the unhappy fate of these children, and how much philanthropy has been shocked by their sufferings. In Austria, law has effected what philanthropy desired. With regard to children who work in manufactories, it is necessary to guard against their growing up in ignorance, and also that such manufactories should not want the number of hands necessary, or the poor be deprived of their livelihood. It is therefore enjoined to send children to evening schools, whether on Sundays or holidays, where they receive instruction from the clergyman and master, at the expense of their employer and parents. It is, above all, forbidden to take a child into employment before the age of eight years. Every year, the clergyman of the parish sends in a report to the inspector of the schools of the district, on the state of the education of these children. The inspector sends it to a magistrate of the assembly, who consults a physician on it, and then sends it, with his own observations, to the governor of the province.

The "Manual" of the schools lays down with precision what is to be learned and taught in the elementary schools. Here, we perceive the Austrian spirit, which does not attempt concealment of its designs or intentions.

In the elementary schools, the children are divided into two classes. In the first, they are taught catechism, alphabet, spelling, reading of printed and written characters, writing, and ciphering: this class continues for two years. In the second, they learn to write and read, religious instruction is given; they are taught to write from dictation, to cipher, and compose. This is all. Then come rules and regulations for the teachers. Further on, amongst advice as to the intellectual direction of children, these words are found:—"It is not necessary to give them other ideas than those which belong to men of their class in life, or to awaken in their minds other opinions than those fit for their rank. Above all, they should be accustomed to obey and respect authority, and respect should form the motive of their obedience: example, in this case, will be the best lesson. The books used in the schools should contain examples likely to affect their minds, but the master must attend to its development. Priests are, above all, charged with this, for to the clergy belongs the forming of the people's morals."

Thus, we see the aim of the Austrian government is not to impede the development of the mind of the people, but to direct and lead it. This toleration of knowledge, provided it be directed as it wishes, shows itself even in the instruction given to masters. "Memory (says the 'Manual of Schools') is the chief faculty of children; it is, then, especially requisite to form the memory which is to be made use of, yet let us not forget that memory is not the only thing to be attended to, but that it is also necessary to be careful of the instruction of the mind and heart."—Austria seems to remember, more than any other state, the influence which the ancients believed education to have on society; and she has formed her schools with the intent that the subject should be formed, during childhood, such as she wishes him to be and remain through life. To blame this arrangement, is to blame the government, for the spirit in each is the same. Education and policy are not here, as in other states, at variance. In Austria, whether it be good or bad, everything harmonizes.

**Primary superior Schools.**—These schools succeed the elementary, and are of two kinds—those for three classes, and those for four. The elementary

schools form the two first classes of the superior schools, which form, in this way, but a third and fourth class. The elementary and superior schools are not different establishments, but different degrees in the same establishment. The subjects for instruction in the superior school are religion, (comprising the history of the Bible and the Gospels,) reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, German grammar, exercises in composition; and, for such children as are afterwards to enter the "Gymnasium," reading and writing of Latin. This third class completes the system of elementary instruction. With the fourth class commences the intermediate instruction, which is on another system. In every department there are schools such as the above, consisting of four classes. In the fourth class, pupils are prepared for the trade they are to follow, and remain in this class two years. The objects of instruction are religion, the higher branches of arithmetic, exercises in composition, geometry, mechanics, architecture, natural history, geography, physics, drawing of flowers, ornaments, machines, and plans. Such are the different subjects of instruction in the primary schools; and they are worthy of notice, as displaying that desire for practical utility which characterizes the public instruction of the Austrians. Instruction in religion is to be conformable to, and regulated by, the catechism, which the pupil is required to commit to memory. In reading and writing, a moderate proficiency suffices. In teaching grammar, it is forbidden to enter into philosophical definitions of the different parts of speech. In the third and fourth classes of the primary schools, nothing is to be taught which has not some connexion with that already learnt. It is necessary only to give the understanding more liberty, and then leave it to develop itself; and, as the mania for universal knowledge is nowhere more useless than in ordinary life, where *good sense* is the most especial requisite, the teachers are to guard against instilling this dangerous mania: they are to exercise the memory of their pupils, and to accustom them to judge of things properly. The elementary and primary schools of three and four classes form, under the name of German schools, what is called popular instruction in Austria. Popular instruction is obligatory—the intermediate and higher branches are not.

**Practical Schools.**—That which distinguishes these schools from the superior, is not merely their giving a more special education, but that they are not obligatory. On leaving the fourth class of the primary superior school, the young man may, at the discretion of his relatives, enter the gymnasium, if he wishes to receive a polite education, or the practical school, or he may embrace at once some profession. If he is capable and willing to become a man of letters, the gymnasium is open to him; if he wish to become a merchant, he may enter the practical school; and if he wishes to advance still further, there are the institutes of Prague and Vienna; but no advancement from one school to another is permitted, before it is ascertained, by the strictest examination, that the pupil be fit for such change. The object of these examinations is, to prevent the children from advancing to the study of new matters, before they thoroughly comprehend the subordinate branches which precede and support them. It is in this way only that true and solid instruction can be carried on.

This system is, then, far from discountenancing talent: it gives force to the mind, and is for the advantage of both the pupil and society. At each step everything is calculated to prevent the growth of "*demi-savants*." Nor is ignorance in religious matters allowed. Thus, in those examinations which precede advancement from one school to another, religion forms the first and most important part. If the clergyman find the pupil not so advanced in religious as in other branches of learning, he may refuse him the certificate necessary for his admittance into a superior class.

Such is, in a few words, the system of the "*écoles usuelles*" (Real-schulen) in Austria. These schools, without being obligatory, are linked to the superior schools, and these, in their turn, to the Polytechnic Institutions, of which there are two celebrated—namely, those of Prague and Vienna, the latter of which has in Germany a high reputation.

#### THE DUCHESS OF WURTEMBERG.

[The untimely death of this amiable lady is not the least sad event which has already marked this new year. Endeared to her own family by her domestic virtues, she had also attached to her the people of France by her talents, and artists and the lovers of art will lament her as a distinguished and poetical sculptor. It is said, that before her last illness seized her she was at work upon a figure of Charlotte Corday, by way of companion to the statue which forms the subject of the following sonnet. The latter, by her death, has become one of the most touching as well as one of the most beautiful memorials contained in the historical galleries of Versailles. Besides this Joan of Arc, the Duchess of Wurtemberg has left behind her a statue of the same heroine on horseback, and another of Bayard dying. The stained windows of the chapel of St. Saturnine at Fontainebleau, are also from her designs. It is said, that being kept awake by pain a few nights before her death, she called for light and a pencil, and endeavoured to beguile her suffering by sketching her last fancies.]

#### The Statue of Joan of Arc at Versailles.

They imaged thee, of old, in casque and plume,  
Bright Maid of France!—with wild and flashing  
eye,  
And round lip wreathed with scornful victory,  
Like his who burns for conquest sure to come,  
Fired with the future,—careless all, how Doom  
Dogs triumph, like a slow-hound, sure and high.  
Here thou art more a woman: thy low sigh  
Heaves the harsh cuirass,—on thy brow, the gloom  
Of joy departing broods, though tempered well  
With thoughts inspired,—thy hand (unlearned its  
part)  
Grasps the sharp sword with strangeness, not with  
fear.  
Clings yet a memory of thy forest cell,  
With its clear, warbling fountain, round thy heart,  
One dream of Love and Peace,—though War and  
Death are near?

Or marks thine eye—unfaltering 'mid the haze  
Of glory's noon,—wide fields of trampled corn?  
Brave blood like water poured, fair homes forlorn,  
While thy heart sickens at those stormy days,  
And the shrill cries of Anguish drown the lays  
Which hail thee all victorious:—or dost turn  
With patient foresight toward awaiting scorn,  
The unjust tribunal, the grim faggot's blaze,  
And bear-eyed malice gibbering o'er thy grave,  
Bright Maid of France?—What sculptor, wise and  
gray,  
Whose practised hand obeyed a master's will,  
To marble thus thy musing sadness gave?  
Fool!—thinkest thou aught but woman could  
pourtray

A woman's deepest heart with such a gentle skill?

HENRY F. CHORLEY.

Versailles, November 1837.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

It will be recollected perhaps that the late Michael Angelo Taylor, Esq., bequeathed 100,000*l.* to endow a College of Languages at Oxford: from this "plum" the bloom has been rubbed off to the extent of 30,000*l.* in passing through lawyers' hands, and so leaves about two-thirds of the original legacy to its legitimate purpose. If report speak true, however, the crows have not done with the carcass yet: there are more pretty pickings for birds of prey, ere it be consigned to its proper destination. Part of the sum left will necessarily be expended in raising the College itself, but all competition between architects will, it seems, be restricted to the select few at Oxford—three or four celebrities whose names make as much noise within the walls as *Great Tom*, and as little beyond them. Why, appointment made by the Home Minister were preferable to this! A home-minister may by accident be a liberal and discerning man: but a local junto is party-given and blind by its very nature. We hope public opinion will intervene to prohibit any such junto from jobbing out patronage after this manner, too frequent all over England. Let us likewise express a wish that the new College may be built in a home-bred style—the Gothic, for which we have kindred unfeigned feelings. This style would also harmonize well with the site proposed (Beaumont-Street corner), having under one coup-d'œil St. Mary Magdalen's church, St. Michael's, and St. John's College—St. Giles's in the vista—all of the Pointed character. Mr. Basevi's classic wing to picturesque old "Baliol" is the single discordant feature. It is understood, we believe, that the College of Languages will not be appropriated to students, but pro-

fessors only, besides lecture-rooms, &c. His czarish majesty, with a munificence quite characteristic, offered to endow a Russian chair, if the professor were appointable and removable at his imperial pleasure!

An advertisement in our last week's paper, and certain proceedings recorded by our daily contemporaries, leave it no longer doubtful that Dr. Elliotson has retired, beyond all hope of recall or reconciliation, from University College. This we foresaw from the first was not merely a possible, but an almost inevitable consequence of the strange position in which he had placed himself in reference to the absurd hummeries and barefaced impositions so long carried on at the North London Hospital; and it was a circumstance, above all others, which made us reluctant to enter on our exposure of them. Dr. Elliotson, we knew to be an amiable man and of undoubted science; but, unfortunately, no acquirements are sufficient protection against hallucinations, where the imagination strongly predominates over the reason; and the Doctor has shown, on other occasions as well as on this, that he has a strange unnatural appetite for the marvellous. After all, perhaps the most lamentable fact in the whole history of proceedings, as evidence of the state of medical education in this country, is that the exposure was extra-professional; that when we first drew attention to the subject (No. 542) the mountebank professors were exhibiting to crowded and credulous audiences, medical journals were recording, with all sober gravity, a history of the wonderful manifestations, where Doctors A. and B. and C. were coming forward in increasing numbers to testify to the truth of the miracles!

We are gratified to hear of the safe arrival of the *Parsee*, at Hobart Town, on the 17th of September, having on board Mr. Gould, the eminent ornithologist: they made the passage in four months, which is quick sailing. We shall hope, shortly, to be able to communicate some information, interesting to the friends of Mr. Gould, and to the lovers of science.

Yesterday week the Music Class of the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution gave a concert. This we notice as a welcome evidence that the grave, substantial, and utilitarian portion of society in England is beginning to understand the true value of music, not as an amusement to be adopted out of imitation because patronized by the aristocratic and idle, but as a pursuit to be cultivated as adding a cheap and intellectual pleasure to our English homes. But we must also observe, that from the specimen of orchestral-playing we heard, (the greater portion of one of Mozart's symphonies,) we are inclined to recommend the Music Class to close its doors to an audience for another twelve-month at least—not only fine finish, but the common quantum of true feeling was wanting to the performance. In other respects, there is a pause for the moment in the English musical world; Mr. Rooke is busily at work, and his opera, it has been whispered, is to introduce to the English stage Mr. and Mrs. Alban Croft and Mr. Harrison. Mr. Benedict, too, has a new opera in progress—and Mr. Balfie, with Mr. Lover for his dramatist. This last announcement promises well, for not only is Mr. Lover happy and popular as a song writer, beyond most of those employed on such tasks, but he possesses musical knowledge enough to enable him to feel, if not to meet those difficulties of construction, an ignorance of which on the part of the writer makes so many of our opera-books so dolciously absurd.—In Paris, for the sake of novelty, the Italians are about to be driven into the performance of Ricci's *Scaramuccia*;—Auber's *La Sœur des Fées* will not be ready at the *Académie* for some weeks. The papers further tell us of great successes gained at Rome by our old friend John Cramer, who may, possibly, the same authorities add—visit England this spring.

Works of general interest are not sufficient in number to allow the periodical critic an extensive range of selection; and the journal which does not come early into the field, may be esteemed fortunate when it gets a single virgin article to grace its pages with the charm of novelty. It is this difficulty, perhaps, which has induced the editor of the *Edinburgh* to try back in its January Number, and to summon before its tribunal that ancient criminal, the author of 'Headlong Hall.'

We do sometimes indulge ourselves in the luxury of being mere readers; we rejoice exceedingly in this retrogradation; and that, upon more than one account. It has afforded us recreation, in refreshing our memory respecting an author of whom we have always thought highly; and secondly, the deed may be productive of some good to the reading public, by bringing into evidence the quantum of information and ability, which even a very few years ago was required in one who presumed to appear in the character of a novelist. The contrast between such productions as 'Headlong Hall,' 'Melincourt,' &c. and the things which now "come like shadows, so depart," in three handsome octavo volumes, is sufficiently startling. It must fill the producers of these latter articles with surprise, to discover the quantity of thought which a novelist might then intrude upon his reader; and excite in them at least an equal despair, to note the exuberance of gaiety, humour, and humanity, which was then expected in a work of fiction. We have long been made painfully aware of a progressive decline in this department of literature. So little, indeed, not merely of genius, but of mind, is now brought to the business, that we have more and more abridged our own notices of such works. The present refresher of the *Edinburgh* has, however, brought the amount of difference into unexpected relief; and made us feel that things are worse even than we had thought. We accordingly are forced, whether we will or no, to ask ourselves where lies the fault;—with the authors, or the public, or the booksellers? The question cannot be answered in a gossip. We may, however, reply to it at no very distant period. Another able and interesting paper is on 'Luther and the Reformation,' in which justice is done to the subject, and incidentally to M. Michel's work (*Athen*, Nos. 450-1-2). Southey's Poems are also reviewed in a large and liberal spirit; Lister's *Life of Clarendon*, and our Foreign Policy, occupy a large space; but we have left ourselves room to notice only one other article, that on the 'Metaphysical Tracts of the Eighteenth Century.'

We perfectly agree with the writer of that paper, in deploring the scanty attention afforded, in these kingdoms, to any work on "the higher speculations, to which, in other countries, the name of *Philosophy* is exclusively conceded." We have frequently been called upon to notice the fact, and we have felt it a duty to point to the direct discouragement, which in our Universities has repelled the student from such inquiries. It may, however, be questioned, whether the mode in which metaphysics have been treated, and the unsatisfactory nature of their results, have not contributed largely to the same negative consequence. We doubt, for instance, whether such writings as the works of Collier, noticed on the present occasion, whose object is to call in question the evidence of the senses, and the reality of an external world, would not indispose any man but a recluse dreamer, to a pursuit so diametrically at variance with sound and wholesome experience. We are of opinion that the neglect which fell upon these writings, and at which the reviewer marvels, was the consequence of a just judgment on the part of the public; and we lament that Dr. Parr's love of dialectical subtlety should have led him to attempt their revival. This is our apology for having passed them unnoticed. Subtle as are the arguments by which the ideal theory is defended, the doctrine reposes on a rather coarse oversight,—an oversight, namely, of the true meaning of the word "prove," or what it is that makes the force of argument. Men's minds were for some two thousand years so occupied with the forms of logic, that they did not think of examining its substance, or they would never have appealed from the evidence of the senses, which is the expressed or implied basis of every demonstration. A belief in the existence of an external world, is not only a necessary substratum of all argument, but is indissolubly bound up with our existence; and natural history teaches that it accompanies the first impressions of the lower animals. It is the strongest conviction of which our nature is susceptible, and therefore incapable of extrinsic proof; for to this evidence all other testimony must be inferior. Whatever reasoning bears against it, then, carries in the fact itself, proof that it must contain concealed error. The reality of the external world, moreover, is the basis of our knowledge and belief in a God; for natural religion derives all its

proof of a creator, from the existence of the things created; while revealed religion is altogether external. To call this existence in question, is not only logically absurd, but practically delusive; for it is inconsistent with the entire theory of man's future destiny,—for the sake of which the Idealists have chiefly plunged into such immeasurable obscurities.

The following is an extract of a letter from a traveller friend now at Rome.—"According to your desire I have visited the colossal church San Paolo fuori le Mura, to report progress since you saw it. It did not please me much—one must be a mason to understand it, so covered is it both inside and out with scaffolding. There is no roof on yet: several of the new columns are up—the *pavonazzo* ones gorgeous. In the tribune, behind the high altar, they are lining the whole face of wall with this splendid marble; many of the old columns have been sawed into flat large slabs for this purpose. The granite pillars from Lago Maggiore are tremendously grand—they look fresh hewn—I believe were prepared under Napoleon for some great intention. The very antique Mosaic of the tribune semi-cupola has been all restored. I walked quite awe-stricken through the great sheds in which the marbles are wrought: indeed you may say that more than half the proposed church lies under those sheds, in pieces not yet put together. Really, for *Romans*, the people here do seem at present to exert themselves with some vigour!"

**THE MODEL OF THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO** IS NOW EXHIBITED AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY, by brilliant Artificial Light. Constantly illuminated from 12 o'clock in the afternoon, and throughout the day in dark or unfavourable weather.—Open from Ten in the Morning until Nine in the Evening.—Admission 1s. each.

**THE THAMES TUNNEL,** Entrance near the Church at Rotherhithe, on the Surrey side of the River.

Is OPEN to the Public every Day (except Sunday), from Nine in the Morning until Dark.—Admission, 1s. each.—Both Arches are brilliantly lighted with gas, and the descent to them is by a new and more commodious staircase.—The Tunnel is now upwards of thirty metres and forty feet in length, and completed to within a distance of less than 80 feet of low water mark on the Middlesex shore.

By order, **JOSEPH CHARLIER,** Clerk to the Company. N.B. Conveyances to the Thames Tunnel, by Omnibus, from Charing-cross, Fleet-street, and Gracechurch-street; also by the Woolwich and Greenwich Steam-boats, at Hungerford, Queenhithe, Dyer's Hall Wharf, and London Bridge, every half-hour.—Books descriptive of the Works are sold at the Tunnel, price One Shilling.

## SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

### ROYAL SOCIETY.

Abstract of the paper, read last week, 'On the Law of Mortality,' by Charles Jellicoe, Esq.

The author, considering that the variations and discrepancies in the annual decrements of life, which are exhibited in the tables of mortality hitherto published, would probably disappear, and that these decrements would follow a perfectly regular and uniform law, if the observations on which they are founded were sufficiently numerous,—endeavours to arrive at an approximation to such a law, by proper interpolations in the series of the numbers of persons living at every tenth year of human life. The method he proposes, for the attainment of this object, is that of taking, by proper formulae, the successive orders of differences, until the last order either disappears, or may be assumed equal to zero. With the aid of such differences, of which, by applying these formulae, he gives the calculation, he constructs tables of the annual decrements, founded principally on the results of the experience of the Equitable Assurance Society.

### GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

Jan. 14.—W. R. Hamilton, Esq., President, in the chair.—Extracts from the following papers were read:—

1. 'Notice of a few simple Observations which it is desirable to make on the Frozen Soil of British North America,' communicated by Dr. Richardson, F.R.S., Physician to Haslar Hospital.

Travellers into the arctic regions of Asia and America have mentioned that the sub-soil of certain districts is permanently frozen, and Gmelin long ago declared that, in Siberia, the thickness of the frozen earth was upwards of 100 feet; but these statements were either overlooked or disbelieved until very recently, when Professor Baer, of St. Petersburg, and Mr. Erman, of Berlin, transmitted to the Geogra-

phical Society of a few of the frozen ground, will further show that it was from the north as to the North American parallels of towards the of the Geographical Society to the officers be desirous science by the occasions of the frozen direct man the summer much trouble York Fact feet; and only 22 inches depth the is "the when the soil, that is, and in the locality which in the summer observation boundary map; and without any situation render its elevate its of decomposed pseudo-vol the reflect rock. That in the interior climate is know that Lake, in the Yakutsk the same a good, there as thick as the mean 29° and 30° rule, which land-house rather about will produce Facts, in the are required to be entirely at the post perhaps a southern town on the Mar by visiting annually a case the water, the crevice, which preceding hundred washed at rivers, are Should onness of 40 inspection the depth Yakutsk, likely to Streams, frequently, the gentle are many which contain large volumes Mackenzie having a



Physical Society of London some account of the sinking of a well at Yakutsk to the depth of 382 feet in the frozen ground. The inquiry is to be prosecuted still further in Siberia, and Professor Baer suggests that it would be desirable to collect information from the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company, as to the extent of the layer of frozen ground in North America, the thickness it attains in different parallels of latitude, and how much of it disappears towards the latter end of summer; and the council of the Geographical Society, desirous of promoting so important an inquiry in the department of Physical Geography, have caused the following instructions to be drawn up and printed for the guidance of the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company, who may be desirous of contributing to the advancement of science by their observations.—As it is not likely that occasions for sinking deep pits or wells in the Hudson's Bay countries will speedily occur, the thickness of the frozen crust cannot be ascertained in the same direct manner as at Yakutsk, but the depth to which the summer thaw penetrates may be noted without much trouble. Sir John Franklin mentions that, at York Factory, in lat. 57°, this did not exceed three feet; and on the shores of Great Bear Lake it was only 22 inches. The best time for observing to what depth the soil has been thawed by the summer heat is in "the fall," or the commencement of winter, when the surface begins to freeze again and the snow to lie, that is, early in October, about the 56th parallel, and in the month of September farther north. Every locality where frozen sub-soil is discovered by digging in the summer, should be mentioned, so that when observations are sufficiently multiplied, the southern boundary of the frozen stratum may be traced on the map; and if spots be found in the higher latitudes without any such frozen bed, the peculiarities of its situation should be recorded, particularly those which render its drainage more perfect, or contribute to elevate its summer temperature, such as the presence of decomposing beds of bituminous shale, producing pseudo-volcanoes, the vicinity of thermal springs, or the reflection of the sun's rays from lofty walls of rock. There are several reasons for supposing that, in the interior of the Hudson's Bay territories the climate is nearly the same as that of Siberia, and we know that on the northern shores of Great Slave Lake, in lat. 62°, which is the parallel upon which Yakutsk stands, the mean annual heat is very nearly the same as at the latter place. In that neighbourhood, therefore, we may expect to find the frozen soil as thick as at Yakutsk; at Fort Chipewyan, where the mean temperature is supposed to be between 29° and 30°, the depth of frozen soil, by the same rule, will not exceed 60 feet; and, towards Cumberland-house, where the average heat of the year is rather above the freezing point, the frozen sub-stratum will probably be found to feather off to nothing. Facts, in proof or contradiction of these suppositions, are required, and between Athabasca and the Saskatchewan, the frozen stratum, being very thin, may be entirely penetrated with little labour, particularly at the posts of Isle à la Crosse or Lac la Ronge, or, perhaps still better, on the Peace River and its southern branches. Even in the higher latitudes, as on the Mackenzie, much information may be gained by visiting some of the recent land-slips which occur annually on the banks of the larger rivers. In such a case the height of the top of the bank from the water, the width of the slip, and the age of the crevice, whether newly formed, or the work of a preceding season, should be recorded. Cliffs, several hundred feet high, composed of crumbling rocks, washed at the base by the Mackenzie and Bear Lake rivers, are noticed in Sir John Franklin's journal. Should one of these happen to give way to the thickness of 400 feet, both vertically and horizontally, an inspection of the walls of the crevice would reveal the depth of the frozen earth as the well does at Yakutsk. Land-slips of less magnitude are more likely to take place, and are not to be neglected. Streams, fed only by superficial springs, and, consequently, ceasing to flow in winter, must be known to the gentlemen of the Hudson's Bay Company; there are many large and rapid rivers also known to them, which continue during the whole winter to pour large volumes of water into the Arctic Sea. The Mackenzie itself, is mostly supplied from districts having a mean heat inferior to the freezing point; its

more southerly branches being comparatively small. Now, the waters which sustain the perennial course of many of the tributaries of the Mackenzie, the Great Bear Lake River, for instance, must rise from beneath the frozen stratum. Deane's River, and all the other tributaries of Great Bear Lake, taken in the aggregate, yield, even in the summer, a much smaller quantity of water than that which is discharged by Bear Lake River; and there is no remarkable lowering of the surface of the lake in winter, though the stream that issues from it is too rapid to freeze, is 300 yards wide, and several fathoms deep; hence the great supply must come from the bottom of the lake itself. The depth of one of the arms of the lake has been ascertained to be about 240 feet; but, as the average heat of the year there does not exceed 14° or 17° of Fahrenheit, the source of the perennial springs cannot be estimated at less than 400 feet. The ascertaining of the greatest depth of this lake may therefore be useful in guiding us to a right conclusion, and this may be still more readily accomplished by sounding smaller lakes, which give origin to streams that flow all the winter. This paper has been drawn up with a knowledge of the limited means possessed by the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company for making researches of this kind, and of the important and laborious avocations which employ their time; but much is hoped for from their zeal and intelligence. The only instruments required for ascertaining the depth of the summer thaw, are a spade and a foot rule; and letters, detailing the facts ascertained, may be addressed to the Secretary of the Geographical Society.

2. A letter from James Brant, Esq., H.M. Consul at Erzurum, dated 14th November, 1838, mentioning that he had just returned from a journey in Armenia and Kurdistan, in the course of which he had ascended the hitherto unexplored mountain of Supan Dagh, rising at the north-western angle of the Lake Van to 10,000 feet above the sea; had travelled along the western shore of the lake, visited Bitlis and Sert, thence returning to the south-western foot of Ararat, he had traced the valley of the Murad Châi, or eastern Euphrates, from its source, near Diyadin, in a westerly direction, for nearly three hundred miles, as far as Kharput; and had also obtained accurate data for the course of the river, as low as Samosât. Mr. Brant concludes, by saying, that the tranquillity now introduced into Kurdistan by the reduction of the rebel chiefs, will enable travellers to visit every part of it. The Bey of Hakeriyah is obedient to the Pashâ of Van, and Julamerik, in the heart of the mountain fastnesses, may now easily be reached.

3. A letter from Col. Michell, Surveyor General of the Cape Colony. Communicated by A. Borrodale, Esq.

"London, Jan. 1, 1839.

"My dear Sir,—I am happy to perceive that the subject of a lighthouse at Cape das Agulhas again excites interest; and, lest this feeling should die away, as it usually does when the impression made by such catastrophes as the loss of the *Arcton*, *Doncaster*, *Northumberland*, and so many others, become effaced, I take the earliest opportunity I can command to forward you a sketch of the ground about Agulhas, on which I have marked the site I think most eligible for a lighthouse.

"Having heard many contradictory reports about the nature and relief of the ground about the spot in question, I visited it in March last, expressly to ascertain the truth, which I find to be, that nature has, it would seem, purposely provided the isolated hill shown on the sketch (the height of which, above the sea, is about 270 feet), at the extreme end of the promontory, to afford us the means of obviating such dreadful occurrences as have so frequently been witnessed on that part of the coast—disasters which cease to astonish when it is considered that the country (with the exception of the hill above mentioned, and another of the same kind a little farther west) is a perfect flat, until you come to the range of mountains commencing at Odendaals, upwards of twenty miles north of Cape Agulhas, and that the currents around the latter are more than ordinarily strong.

"Besides the advantage of an elevation of 270 feet, by which the expense of the building may be diminished materially, and the clear view in every direc-

tion which the site affords, I found that, instead of a loose sand hummock, as it had been described, the whole hill is one mass of excellent limestone, easily quarried and dressed, and indurating by exposure; thus obviating the expense of transport of either stones, bricks, or lime, as the latter can be made on the spot, with the shells found on the coast or from the stone itself.

"Several small springs exist on the slope and at the foot of the hill, which would be useful in the building and afterwards for the consumption of the lighthouse man. I beg also to remark that the Hon. Michiel van Breda, on whose property the ground in question stands, has most generously authorized me to state that he will be happy to contribute towards a work so loudly called for by suffering humanity, by giving in perpetuity as much ground as may be requested for a lighthouse, with right of access to the same; an act of liberality which cannot fail to be duly appreciated.

"Until the thing reaches a more advanced stage, and that the extent of the funds are ascertained, I deem it premature to submit any plan and estimate, and shall, therefore, confine myself to stating to you that the probable *minimum* of expense of erecting a single lantern lighthouse at Cape Agulhas, with copper head, plate-glass panes, silvered reflectors, and argand burners—also a plain, but suitable dwelling for the keeper, and a store-room, (the light, to be no more elevated than necessary for a clear view all round,) will be between 1,700*l.* and 1,800*l.*; and that the yearly expense of lighting, salary, and occasional repairs, from 230*l.* to 240*l.* This is omitting the items of architect and superintendence, which I feel a hope that His Excellency Sir George Napier will permit me to contribute as my mite, in the furtherance of so desirable a work.

"I have been both surprised and grieved to hear objections raised to the placing of a light at Agulhas, on the score that captains ought to be too well acquainted with their duty and too vigilant to need one. This may be very plausible, but whilst we await the desired general perfection in commanders, and the perfect finding of vessels in instruments and observers, thousands of valuable lives are being lost, and families left desolate. Besides, upon this principle, we ought to extinguish all the Channel and other lights. Earnestly hoping that the exertions, which I feel certain you will make to forward this good work, may be crowned with success.—I am, &c.

"CHAS. C. MICHELL."

4. From Mr. G. W. Earl, on board H.M.S. *Albatross*, Sydney, Aug. 21, 1838.—On her passage out from England, the vessel had touched at Adelaide, on the south coast of Australia, and Mr. Earl gives a very favourable report of the rapid progress of that colony; but he was more particularly struck by the docility of the natives. In consequence of good treatment on the part of the settlers, the aborigines have abandoned their former wandering habits, and have literally become "hewers of wood and drawers of water" for the white population, depending for their subsistence on the bread and other provisions furnished them by the settlers in payment for the labour they perform. Throughout the day they may be seen cheerfully employed in dragging casks of water from the wells to the houses, and in cutting down wood, which the women and children carry away to their employers. Thus proving, that by judicious and kind treatment the natives of Australia, or at least of this portion of it, may be made useful and valuable allies to the colonist. In features, they are remarkable for an extraordinary projection of the brow immediately above the eyes, and are unlike any that the writer had seen either on the west or east coast. Mr. Earl also sends a short vocabulary of their language, which differs entirely from that spoken in the other known parts of the country; it abounds in vowels, and is very soft to the ear. Among many other topics mentioned in his letter, Mr. Earl strongly recommends that a small dépôt for provisions should be immediately established, at the point of junction of the rivers Murray and Darling, which would greatly facilitate the communication between Sydney and Adelaide, and prove of much mutual benefit. It could be easily supplied, as stores could be carried up the Murray river from Encounter Bay in boats; and besides the security thereby afforded to travellers passing to and fro

between the two colonies, and the probable saving of many lives, there is little doubt but that it would soon become a town of much importance.

5. An account of the Ascent of Mount William, the highest point in the range of mountains which form the chief physical feature in the south-eastern angle of Australia, by Dr. Lhotsky. This paper was illustrated by various views of scenery taken in the Warragong Mountains, (misnamed Australian Alps on our maps,) and of the remarkable botanical productions of that little known region. Dr. Lhotsky states, that the temperature of boiling water on the summit was 196° Fahr., indicating an elevation of about 8,200 feet above the level of the sea.

The President called the attention of the meeting to the chief donation of the evening, a copy of Mr. Murchison's geographical as well as geological work, 'The Silurian System,' in two large volumes, with a beautiful map engraved by Mr. Gardner. Having discovered that certain border counties of England and Wales, the Siluria of Caratacus, contained clear evidences of a succession of some of the most ancient strata in which organic remains occur, Mr. Murchison has devoted the last seven years in preparing this work, which is intended to show that the "silurian region" may serve as the type of a normal group of hitherto unclassified deposits which there rise to the surface in successive ridges, and connect the coal formations and other overlying strata with the older slaty rocks. In pursuing this subject, Mr. Murchison has coloured geologically the sheets of the Ordnance Survey of eleven counties, of which the large map now presented to the public is an exact reduction, and in which minute details are combined with new views of general classifications throughout the country, extending from the southern limits of Cheshire to the extremity of Pembrokeshire. The first volume of this work, embracing descriptive geology and physical geography, includes a full survey of the operations by which the surface of this part of Britain has passed from a sub-marine condition into dry land, and explains how the present drainage has been effected, each subject being illustrated by views, wood-cuts, and coloured sections. In it the owners of the soil will also find a clear account of the tracts wherein coal may advantageously be sought for, as well as emphatic warnings against the repetition of many trials which have been made to find it amid the "silurian" rocks. The second volume describes the organic remains of these ancient strata, nearly 400 species of which are represented in spirited etchings and highly wrought lithographs.

LINNEAN SOCIETY.—At the ordinary meeting on Tuesday, a specimen was exhibited, forwarded by Thomas Forrest, gardener to Lord Dinorben, of what was considered the fruit of the *Zamia horrida*, and grown in England; but Prof. Don gave it as his opinion, that the specimen was but the calyx of another plant.—A paper was subsequently read by the Professor on the orders Juncacea and Saporacea.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

SAT.	Asiatic Society	Two, P.M.
MON.	British Architects	Eight.
	Statistical Society	Eight.
	Geological Society	p. Eight.
TUES.	Zoological Society (Sci. Mus.)	p. Eight.
	Medico-Botanical Society	Eight.
WED.	Society of Arts	p. Seven.
	Royal Society	p. Eight.
	Royal Society of Literature	Four.
THUR.	Society of Antiquaries	Eight.
	Naturalists Society	Seven.
FRI.	Royal Institution	p. Eight.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

##### DRURY LANE.

This Evening, GUILLAUME TELL; and THE PANTOMIME. On Monday, GUILLAUME TELL; and THE PANTOMIME. Tuesday, THE DAUGHTER OF THE DANUBE; with NOW OR NEVER; and THE PANTOMIME. Wednesday, GUILLAUME TELL; and THE PANTOMIME. Thursday, THE GIPSY'S WARNING; and THE PANTOMIME.

##### COVENT GARDEN.

This Evening, THE TEMPEST; and THE PANTOMIME. On Monday, WILLIAM TELL; and THE PANTOMIME. Tuesday, THE TEMPEST; and THE PANTOMIME. Wednesday, THE LADY OF LYONS; and THE PANTOMIME. Thursday, THE TEMPEST; and THE PANTOMIME.

The Theatres.—There has been no change since our last report, except 'Now or Never'—a slight piece, at DRURY LANE, the production of Mr. George Dance, which was successful. 'The Tempest,' we rejoice to say, still holds its attractions at COVENT GARDEN; and

on Tuesday we found the theatre as crowded as on the first night: Mr. Van Amburgh too has numerous followers at Drury Lane: the good people at the OLYMPIA still rejoice over the return of their favourite; and the French giant tempts many to the ADÉLPHI—so that between spirits of air and of earth, "elves of hills, brooks, standing lakes, and groves," men, women, and beasts, the holiday people may make election, and find something to please all humours.

#### MISCELLANEA

Literature and Art.—According to the supplement to Bent's Monthly Literary Advertiser for 1838, there appears an increase of new publications, the number of books amounting to 1550, (1850 volumes,) exclusive of New Editions, Pamphlets, or Periodicals, being 170 more than in 1837. A new edition is announced of Mr. Bent's London Catalogue of Books, a very useful work, the value of which would be greatly increased by adding in a separate column the date of publication.

L. E. L.—It may interest the many admirers of the late Mrs. Maclean to know, that Mr. Schloss has had the miniature portrait of her, which appeared in her fiery annual, the 'Bijou Almanac,' neatly coloured, and tastefully mounted on card, with an ornamental border: so that for a mere trifle they may have a likeness of that lamented lady.

Earthquakes in Chili.—A number of observations concerning the earthquakes in Chili, have been collected by M. Dumoulin, an engineer, and transmitted by him to M. Arago. From these it appears, that, contrary to the general opinion, these earthquakes do not occur more frequently in one season than another. It cannot be doubted that they have the effect of elevating the surface. The little river Tabul, which, at 22 or 23 leagues from Talcahuano, was navigable for brigs in 1834, became fordable after the earthquake of 1835, and it was remarked, that throughout the neighbourhood the beds of the streams and small rivers were elevated. In one year Captain Costa, master of a whaler, found the bottom of the sea at the island of St. Mary, raised nine feet, and rocks which were not uncovered even at low tide, were entirely out of water, and not even covered by the sea at the time when it was highest.

Animalculæ.—M. Meyen, of Berlin, has been making observations on the spermatic animalculæ which he has found in plants of inferior organization. Baron von Humboldt, who observed them with M. Meyen, states that the movements of these animalculæ out of the cell, far from resembling those of the molecules, in the experiments of Mr. Brown, appear to be analogous to those of infusoria. Each animal is developed in an isolated manner, in a cell of polleniferous matter. When it is formed, the interstices of the cellules disappear, and the animalculæ are recognized in a spiral form.

The 'Properties' of a Theatre.—"Depredations having been committed, some years since, upon the Golgotha of the Park Theatre (New York), the 'properties man' was in great distress one evening. Kemble was to play *Hamlet*, and their only remaining skull was the well-known pyrotechnic automaton appertaining to the incantation scene of 'Der Freyschutz,' and with which there was danger of ignition. In his dilemma he flew to Dr. Bartolo's, and begged the loan of a skull for one night only. From his cabinet of curiosities the Doctor produced a cranium which served for the 'grave scene,' and was returned on the day following. Had any present known whose voice had once spoken within those fleshless bones, whose eyes had once flashed from those empty sockets—there would have been a sensation throughout the house. The skull thus unwittingly held up to an unconscious audience, was the *bona fide* caput of a *Forick* Charles Kemble had known,—"It was the skull of George Frederick Cooke! Was not this an impressive memento mori of histrionic fame?"—*New York Mirror*.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J.—A Lover of British Art—H. C. B.—An old Subscriber—R. M. T.—J. F. A. P.—received. To Ida, obliged, but decline—T. D. had better write to the author of the communication at Dublin.

Errata.—Page 35, col. 1, for "annual eclipse" read *annular*. Page 24, col. 2, line 20, for "plants" read *plates*—line 63, for "works" read *rocks*.

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"Silos's brook that flow'd  
 Fast by the Oracle of God,"

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